



# NEW RECRUITS BOOST COLLEGE

Report by Clare Butler

**HALESOWEN College is recruiting teaching staff in 17 departments as bosses aim to enhance training in the region.**

Vacancies are up for grabs in accounting, animal care, bakery, beauty therapy, catering and childcare among other areas.

It comes as the college recently announced record numbers of students progressing on to university – with more than 800 taking their studies further last year.

Principal Keith Bate said: “The vast majority of teaching staff at the college have progressed their careers through training within the organisation and many have been promoted to senior teaching and management jobs.

“As a large local employer it is incumbent on us to invest in the local economy and enhance education and training possibilities for local people that would not otherwise be available. Halesowen College is continuing its commitment to being an exemplary local employer recognised for the most capable, committed and caring staff.”

He added: “A key aim of the organisation is to be the leading centre for training in education and learning within the region and with this in mind new job and training opportunities are planned for September 2016.”

## Roles

Each year the college provides teacher-training places based on a one-year full-time or two-year part-time programme through the post-16 initial teacher training programme, with the University of Worcester.

Job vacancies are also available in IT, Fashion, Graphic Design, Maths and English, with hopes that new staff will be taking up their roles from September.

Last year the college also began to provide alternative higher education routes for students, including part-time and employment options linked with apprenticeships.

In November Quality Assurance Agency reviewers visited the college and judged that its academic standards, the quality and enhancement of its student learning opportunities, and the quality of information about its learning opportunities all met expectations.

The college is holding an open day on Saturday, March 19, from 10am to 2pm. Celebrations will mark back 50 years to the college's beginnings in 1966 and the Whittingham Road campus will swing to the sounds of the 1960s hit parade.

Initially, the college employed 40 staff and offered fewer than 50 full-time and part-time courses over three curriculum areas. However, now hundreds of staff makes Halesowen College one of the biggest employers in the area and 16 curriculum areas deliver 37 A Level subjects and over 100 full-time vocational courses.

## HANDSOME HOUND AIMING TO BE TOP DOG



Andy Stote, a dog breeder from Halesowen, will be showing his Irish Wolfhound Hemi at Crufts at the NEC this weekend

THERE were plenty of wagging tails as dozens of dogs and their owners descended on Birmingham's NEC to officially launch this year's Crufts.

Dog lovers from around the country, including many from the Black Country, gathered to mark the 125th anniversary of the world's largest dog show.

Each one had been invited to the special launch event for being members of the Good Citizen Dog Training Scheme, the largest dog training programme in the UK.

Amongst them is Halesowen's Andy Stote,

who will be aiming for top prize with his Irish Wolfhound Hemi on Sunday.

Mr Stote said: “Last year the competition was tough, and Hemi came third in the junior class, which was fantastic.

## Gold

“This year she will be in the older class as she is 27 months old.”

Maureen Sale, from Streetly, is hoping to win gold again on Saturday in the breeding event with ten-month-old Misty.

Cindy Slade, from Tipton, went along to

show her support for Crufts with her five-year-old Terrier Cross Precious, a rescued dog who visits nursing homes as a therapy dog.

“I'm really chuffed to be able to bring Precious as she isn't a pedigree but has been able to take part in wishing Crufts 125 years of happiness,” she said.

The show which will involve 22,000 dogs from the UK and overseas, began today (Thursday) and runs until Sunday.

● To watch a live stream of Crufts, visit [www.expressandstar.com](http://www.expressandstar.com)

## COURT

### Husband admits murder of his wife

A HUSBAND has admitted murdering his wife, in an altercation over tickets for an Elvis Presley tribute act.

Paul Abbott appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday and pleaded guilty to the murder of Jacqueline Abbott. She died after being found with serious head injuries at the couple's home in Lodge Crescent, Netherton, on December 11. The fatal injuries were sustained during an altercation over a planned night out.

Abbott, 57, was remanded in custody for a hearing in April. Judge John Wait warned Abbott that he faced a life sentence.

## FUNDING

### Aspiring athletes set for cash help

SANDWELL Council is set to create a £25,000 fund to support athletes.

The Gifted and Talent Programme will provide grants to individual athletes who are achieving at elite level or have the potential to do so, with up to £500 available for individuals.

Leisure chief at the cash-strapped council, Councillor Syeda Khatun, said: “Some Sandwell talents took part in the Commonwealth Games and Olympics and we want to encourage other people with those skills.”

## ATTACK

### Teenager remanded in secure hospital

A TEENAGER has been cleared of the attempted murder of a 66-year-old man in a knife attack in Dudley but was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm.

Tommy Smith – a paranoid schizophrenic – launched the onslaught on Peter Churm with such force that the eight inch weapon broke in two.

On Monday at Wolverhampton Crown Court, 18-year-old Smith, of Grove Street, Dudley, was cleared of attempted murder. He was convicted of causing grievous bodily harm and burglary and remanded to a secure psychiatric hospital for reports until a date still to be fixed.

## INSIDE

### NEW LOCATION FOR TV'S CAFE



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# MP advising caution to football fans

A BLACK Country MP has urged caution over suggestions that football fans should be given more powers to help run their clubs.

The issue was discussed in the House of Commons amid fears over where the game is heading due to rising foreign ownership and the huge sums of money coming into the Premier League.

Renewed talk of a European Super League, for the biggest richest teams on the continent, has also been met with alarm.

Labour shadow sports minister Clive Efford is seeking to move a football governance bill, which would make it easier for fans to intervene in the running of their clubs. The right to buy shares

and mandatory fan representation on the board are among measures which have been suggested.

Wolves, West Bromwich Albion and Aston Villa are all facing uncertain futures. Wolves and Villa are both up for sale while Albion chairman Jeremy Peace is seeking fresh investment.

Eltham MP Mr Efford said his proposals had received the backing of dozens of supporters' groups. He told the Commons: "When we look around football today, it is clear that fans are under-represented and not listened to. No matter what level of the game we look at, we see examples of where things could be improved if football fans had greater representation."

But James Morris, MP for Halesowen and Rowley Regis, while stating he was in favour of greater supporter involvement in club, said that he was opposed to the proposed bill.

He was unsure whether the proposal 'adequately addresses some of the complexities of encouraging supporter ownership and participation'.

The Conservative MP said: "We must have a much tighter regime of football club licensing and the FA has a role to play in that. Greater supporter participation in football is critical but I am not convinced that the mechanism he outlines in the bill is the most appropriate way of dealing with the problem he identifies."

# Question mark over centre for the elderly

**A DAY centre in Stourbridge which is used by 400 elderly and vulnerable people a week is facing an uncertain future.**

Age Concern is currently allowed to use the Mary Stevens Centre on Hagley Road for free for day care services.

However, bosses at the charity's Stourbridge and Halesowen branch fear they may have to move out, a decision that could leave elderly people - many who are suffering with the early stages of dementia - with nowhere to go.

Dudley Council has got to save £20 million over the next two years and has already announced Dudley Museum will close and library hours will be cut. Council bosses admit they were facing difficult choices due to huge budget cuts.

However, council bosses insist no decisions had been made about the future of the Age Concern service.

Councillor Dave Branwood, who is responsible for adult social care, said: "We have made no decision over the future of Mary Stevens Centre. We manage the centre on behalf of the Ernest Stevens Trust, so anything we do with regard to the building is subject to agreement by the trust."

## Difficult

"These are very difficult times with unprecedented reductions in funding from central government. We will continue to work closely with the community across the borough to explore new ways of delivering services in line with our commitment as a community council."

Kenneth Turner, who is on the board of directors at Age Concern, said he had been informed the group might have to leave the centre it has been permitted to use for the last 20 years and says the council has been non-committal about their future.

Age Concern also runs the Elton Centre in Stourbridge town centre but he said that site would not be big enough to take in an extra 400 people.

Mr Turner said: "They have not confirmed or denied if we are to be moved out. We look after 400 members of the community a week, many in the initial stages of dementia."

"What we are now looking to do is extend the Elton Centre but we would need to close it down for 12 to 18 months."

## Couple celebrate 70 years together



Halesowen couple Ron and Nancy Parsons celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary at Clent

A COUPLE in their 90s, who went to primary school together, have celebrated their platinum wedding anniversary.

Nancy and Ron Parsons, originally from Halesowen, marked the milestone with celebrations at the Foresters Nursing Home in Clent.

"I think the world of Nancy, she is perfect and I couldn't imagine life without her," said Mr Parsons, aged 94. "I couldn't have had a better husband," added Mrs Parsons.

Sitting side by side in the con-

servatory at the home, they said they didn't know what all the fuss was about.

The couple have seen many changes over the years with Mr Parsons recalling that many still got around by horse and carriage in his youth. The couple first met when they were eight-year-olds attending Halesowen Church School, when Ron was a friend of Nancy's brother Jeff.

They married on March 3, 1946, and three years later moved into a

cottage in Halesowen. The couple did not have children.

Mrs Parson's niece, Coleen Price, 67, said: "They had a lovely day celebrating their anniversary. It is a big achievement being married for 70 years."

The couple were only parted when Mr Parsons served towards the end of the Second World War. He went on to work at the Austin Motor Company for 25 years and his wife was a secretary at BIR Metals in Woodgate.

# Beggars will be removed from town's High Street

POLICE have promised to remove beggars from a Black Country High Street after it was revealed they had been conning shoppers out of money.

A group of around half a dozen people, dubbed 'professional beggars' by police, have been posing as homeless and hanging around outside Tesco in Cradley Heath High Street, when they are actually in receipt of full benefits.

Police say dispersal orders have moved some of them on but there is a group who are refusing to budge and have remained on the High Street.

Traders have called for more action to remove the beggars, who have also been seen at the train station.

Sergeant Jason Phillips, of Cradley Heath Police, said many of the beggars were previously known to police and some had already been brought before the courts.

He said: "We first became aware of the problem a month or so before Christmas. We identified a group of six or seven people who have been involved in low-level crime and have come across from the Dudley area. They appeared to be working as a team; two would come and get dispersed then another two would arrive."

"Through our investigations we discovered they weren't homeless and were in receipt of benefits and basically conning the public."

Sgt Phillips said the force would look at using criminal behaviour orders which could ban anyone who returns and continues to cause a nuisance.

# Governors win national award

A SPECIAL school in the Black Country has been awarded a national award.

The board of governors at The Westminster School in Rowley Regis has been awarded the Governor Mark, which is a National Governors Association approved quality standard.

The award recognises the board's high quality of governance and highlighted a number of areas assessors were especially impressed with. Fewer than 50 secondary schools in the country have achieved the accolade.

Headteacher Christine Hill said: "We have an extremely supportive governing board which works exceptionally hard for all of our pupils. We are delighted that their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to The Westminster School has been recognised nationally."

# BHS warning over hundreds of jobs

BHS has warned up to 40 of its shops could close unless it can strike a better deal on rents with landlords. The retailer is cutting 150 staff at its head office and 220 from shops. The company employs 11,000 and has 164 stores, including in Merry Hill and Birmingham.

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# Councillor accused of online racist comments

A UKIP Councillor in Dudley has been reported to the council's standards department for allegedly making racist comments.

Councillor Stuart Henley has been reported to standards by the Halesowen Yemeni Community Association.

This follows comments he made online about the council opting to use the Yemeni Association to provide services at Halesowen Youth Centre.

He wrote: "Dudley Council cannot get any worse. They are renting a youth centre to a Yemeni group.

"It was reported to myself by a group in Halesowen and a previous police sergeant that Yemeni teen males caused issues with females in Halesowen and now they wish these young females to use this centre."

## Concern

Dudley Council's monitoring officer Philip Tart confirmed the council had received 'an expression of concern' about comments made.

In a statement Councillor Henley, a Halesowen North ward representative, said his actions were fair and necessary in his role as an elected spokesman.

He said: "I had the concern raised by both residents and a police officer. As an elected spokesman it is my duty to express such concerns."

Saif Salih from the Yemeni Association, claimed the comments Councillor Henley originally made were 'nothing but scaremongering' with 'obvious racial views'.

# Speedway rivals unite for charity

CRADLEY Heathens and Wolves speedway riders will put their best feet forward with fans of both clubs at an event to raise funds for Sport Relief.

The rivals, who will share Monmore Green this year, are inviting supporters to the Wolverhampton Sport Relief Mile on March 20 from 11am.

Two riders will lead the walk - Max Clegg, from Wolves, and Ashley Morris, who is set to return to the Heathens. It's an opportunity for fans to walk - or jog - the six laps of the Monmore Green circuit.

Wolverhampton promoter Chris Van Straaten said: "There will be live music on the terraces and it should be a very enjoyable day out for a great cause."

# M5 slip road night closures at 5 and 6

THE southbound carriageway and entry slip roads at junction 5 and 6 of the M5 will be closed overnight from 8pm until 6am from tonight (Thursday) until Sunday.

A diversion route will be signposted.

# Family of victim in appeal for witnesses



Declan Osbourne

THIS shocking picture of a teenager left for dead in a suspected hit-and-run has been released by his family as they appeal for more witnesses to come forward.

Declan Osbourne was knocked off his moped and suffered 'life-changing' injuries in the incident in Blackheath - just 30 seconds away from his home.

Now 16-year-old Declan's older sister Nicole has spoken of the family's struggle since the incident.

The teenager's helmet fell off after the impact of the smash and Declan sustained injuries which surgeons are unable to operate on.

Nicole, 26, said: "Declan sustained a lot

of blows to the head and had a major bleed on the brain. When the brain surgeon came to see us he said what happened was the worst thing as they can't operate on the brain.

"But I am just thankful that he's still here, as it could have been fatal."

## Fractures

Albion fan Declan, a student at Ormiston Forge Academy in Cradley Heath, suffered a broken collarbone, cheekbone, ankle and multiple facial fractures in the collision.

The driver of the Honda Civic allegedly fled the scene near Mackmillan Road after the incident on January 30.

Declan lives in nearby Central Avenue.

Nicole has urged members of the public to come forward with information and also thanked the local community for support as she launched a fundraising campaign.

They have started a fundraising page to donate cash to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, where Declan has been treated.

A 24-year-old man was arrested in connection with the offence and later released on police bail while investigations continue.

Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101 and ask for PC Byrne at the Collision Investigation Unit.

# Garage had sold car in danger of exploding

THE boss of a Black Country car dealership has been jailed for selling dangerous vehicles which were unfit for the road.

The Lyde Green Motor Centre in Cradley sold cars which had numerous faults, including problems with brakes and steering, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

One car had the potential to explode, such was its dangerous state.

The faults became clear almost immediately after they were purchased and buyers were 'given the runaround' as they tried to recoup thousands of pounds they had paid, the court was told.

Company director Mohammed Khabeer was jailed for a year after admitting six offences relating to unfair trading.

Recorder Barry Berlin told him he 'must have known' about the dangerous condition the cars were in.

Khabeer, aged 39, had previously been jailed for more than 30 offences relating to clocking cars. The recorder said Khabeer had not learned his lesson. The company, which is no longer trading, was also fined £21,000.

The court heard complaints were made by two customers relating to a BMW X5 and a Saab which were purchased from the dealership on Lyde Green in December 2014.

The BMW was bought for £12,800 and had numerous faults. The seats were loose, the headlights weren't working and the electrics were faulty.

## Corroded

The £1,900 Saab was in an even worse state. It pulled to the left and on further examination the suspension was found to be badly corroded. Problems with its exhaust meant carbon dioxide could have got into the passenger cabin and that the battery was insecure, which meant there a 'potential for explosion'.

The buyer of the BMW was turned away when he tried to get a refund, while another did manage to get his money back but only after being 'given the runaround'.

Sunit Sandhu, defending Khabeer, of Madison Avenue, Hodge Hill, said the cars were bought by the company with MOT certificates and hundreds of other cars had been sold without any complaints.

But Recorder Berlin said the cars were 'in an appalling state and the people who bought them treated in an appalling way'.

# Football club snaps up TV cafe



Outside the blue cafe are club shop manager Emma Broughton and bar manager Louisa Anderson

THE title star of a TV show has been snapped up by Halesowen Town Football Club - it's the new cafe for supporters on match days.

The building has arrived at The Grove stadium after the club's owner Steve Lynch spotted it for sale on online auction site eBay.

The blue wooden structure had appeared in the 13-episode Sky One sitcom The Cafe, when it was situated in Weston-Super-Mare, and starred Ralf Little. Now here

is talk of getting the actor, who also featured in The Royal Family, to officially unveil the new building at The Grove.

Mr Lynch thought the building would be a perfect addition to the home of the Yeltz when he spotted it advertised for £5,000.

As it was used as a TV set, it was only partially built and has needed to undergo work to make it complete. It has already been used by fans on a trial basis but is

expected to be open permanently next season for hot refreshments before matches, as well as at half time and afterwards.

Mr Lynch said: "It is something unique and unusual, I thought it would be great for the fans. It will be an indoor cafe when at the moment we have cabins but people have to stand outside.

"It will improve the facilities. There will be a disabled toilet in there too."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

# Hospital recruits Filipino nurses

MORE than 130 nurses will be recruited from the Philippines to work at Russells Hall Hospital.

The move comes after figures recently revealed some shifts had been understaffed at the hospital over the past 12 months.

Speaking at a Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust board meeting last week, chief nurse Dawn Wardell said: "We will be going to the Philippines on April 9 and have more than 130 people to interview.

"We have also made contact with an agency in India."

# Worst fly-tipping hotspots revealed

FLY-TIPPING hotspots in the Black Country have been revealed, with several areas in Dudley and Halesowen identified.

Devon Crescent in Dudley is one spot being targeted by fly-tippers, according to the police.

Other hotspot include are Lapal Lane South in Halesowen and Crocketts Lane in Smethwick.

Dudley councillor Hilary Bills said fly-tipping caused a blight on the landscape and left council taxpayers out of pocket.

# Tributes are paid to grandfather

THE family of a pensioner who died after being hit by a car outside the Bullring shopping centre have paid tribute to a 'doting husband, father and grandfather'.

Abdullah Khan was struck at 6.08pm last Tuesday in Park Lane, suffering critical head, pelvic, and arm injuries, and was taken to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The 85-year-old died two days later.

Witnesses are asked to call police on 101 and ask for Pc Byrne.

# Heads up for gig by former Argent singer

MUSICIAN, songwriter and singer Russ Ballard will be appearing at Bilston's Robin 2 on Sunday.

Russ Ballard is the former lead vocalist and guitarist of rock band Argent, who had a massive hit with Hold You Head Up. Tickets are priced at £17.50 in advance and £18.50 on the door at the Mount Pleasant venue.

To book tickets,contact the box office on 01902 401211, or visit the website at [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk) to buy online or to see the venue's gig guide.

## Fire safety advice

WEST Midlands Fire and Rescue Service will be giving a talk about fire safety in the home at a meeting of the Halesowen branch of West Midlands Pensioners Convention at the Shenstone Theatre, above Halesowen Library, on Thursday, March 17, at 10.30am.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



YEAH, we gotta stop polluting the air and we gotta take the planet seriously. Bite-sized goblets of eco-wisdom dropped from the lips of the great and good at the Oscars. Here's a good question for them. How many times did you fly last year?

THANKS for all your emails on whatever happened to big ends, those bits deep within car engines that so often gave up the ghost in days of yore. If I cut and pasted all your learned contributions I would have a 2,500-word dissertation and possibly qualify for some sort of degree. I gather that's how academia works these days.

A READER says it's time to name and shame those who wrongly use words that sound the same. The classic example, he says, is the graffiti on a railway bridge near Oswestry proclaiming: "Gorilla War Fair."

THIS was the week, as you have probably noticed, when Donald Trump stopped being mad. After his Super Tuesday success, there were no wild-eyed demands to exclude Muslims or keep Mexicans out behind a massive wall. Instead, he spoke of unity and co-operation. What's going on? There are two explanations. The first, from Piers Morgan, is that Trump has behaved outrageously to dominate the media and now, having virtually won the Republican nomination, can return to being the sober, reasonable business manager he is. The second explanation, which I prefer, is that Trump merely wanted to shake up US politics and never in his wildest dreams expected to get this far. With the White House on his horizon and not an iota of experience in politics, he is frightened to death of becoming president and needs all the friends he can find.

TIME required to fight and win the first World War: four years. Time required to fight and win the Second World War: six years. Time required to draw up new trade agreements in the event of the UK leaving the EU (according to Whitehall): 10 years. In this war of words, as with any war, the first casualty is truth.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Secular campaigners enter prayer quarrel

**A SECULAR group has called for an end to prayers at council meetings, after a clergyman sparked controversy by raising the European Union referendum at a Dudley Council meeting.**

Mayor's chaplain Reverend Andrew Wickens was accused of bringing politics into prayer, leading to concerns being voiced by some councillors.

**By Andrew Turton**

He told councillors at the full council meeting on February 22 that those arguing for an exit from the EU 'need to be aware of the risks of stoking anti-European sentiment'.

He added that migrants trying to enter Britain and the EU should not be 'further stigmatised'.

But his opening prayers were interrupted after his comments. Conservative councillor Chris Elcock called out: "What has this got to do with prayer. Can we just have the Lord's Prayer."

## UKIP

Councillors, including Dudley UKIP group members, hit out at the speech but council leader Councillor Pete Lowe and Dudley North MP Ian Austin have supported Rev Wickens.

Sedgley councillor Bill Etheridge, who is also a UKIP Euro MP, vowed to launch an official complaint. Councillor Etheridge said: "Far from the Star of Bethlehem, the chaplain seemed more focused on the stars

of the EU. To bring politics into prayer is totally inexcusable."

The National Secular Society has urged council officials to rethink prayers in light of the issue. Campaigns manager, Stephen Evans, in a letter to the Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho, said: "With the merits of prayers during official council business under scrutiny, I would urge you to take this opportunity to rethink the practice of including prayer in council meetings."

"I would hope that all serving councillors are keen to ensure that the meetings of Dudley MBC are conducted in a manner equally welcoming to all attendees, regardless of individual religious beliefs or lack of belief."

Mr Wickens is the vicar at St Thomas and St Luke's Church - Top Church - in Dudley. He again led prayers at a council meeting on February 29.

## Beauties put confidence first



Samantha Roston, 17, of Halesowen, through to the final

IT'S not just about striking a pose and looking pretty - that's the message from the finalists in the Miss Birmingham contest.

Eight contestants remain in the running of the prestigious competition which culminates on March 20.

The winner will be chosen at a glamorous finale held at the Burlington Hotel.

More than 800 women entered the annual competition. Among them was 17-year-old finalist Samantha Roston, of Halesowen, who is hoping to inspire young people.

## Inspire

"There is far more to the competition than standing and looking pretty," she said.

"I hope to inspire other people, by encouraging them to embrace individuality as well as promoting the importance of self confidence and esteem."

"I will be actively raising money and awareness for a charity called Beauty With a Purpose."

Another hopeful is 22-year-old University of Birmingham PhD student Sian O'Brien, of Oldbury, who wants to 'raise the flag for women in science.'

## Npower to pull plug on 2,500 UK jobs

THE jobs of hundreds of Npower employees across the area hang in the balance after the energy giant confirmed it was axing more than one in five of its UK workforce.

The energy giant's plans, which come amid heavy financial losses, have been described as a 'devastating blow' to its workers.

The company, owned by German group RWE, ended days of speculation this week by confirming that its 11,500 strong workforce will be reduced by 2,500.

Npower will not say where the axe will fall, saying it will consult with unions and workers first.

It employs around 500 people at its Birch House offices in Oldbury and another 106 at at Burntwood.

The job cuts will affect a mixture of direct and indirectly employed staff, including some in the Midlands, but are not 'site specific'.

Npower confirmed the closure of an office in Burton-upon-Trent, which employs around 200 staff. There will be no job cuts at the firm's power stations.

A statement said: "Npower takes its responsibilities to its employees seriously and will consult fully with affected employees and with unions."

Unison general secretary Dave Prentis said: "These huge job losses will come as a devastating blow."

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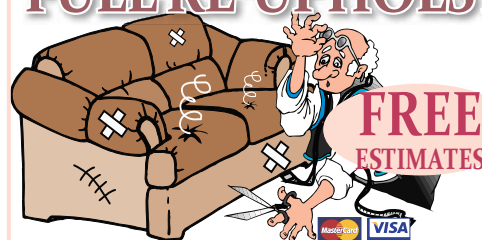
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## Deadline given for tinted taxi windows

TAXI drivers will have to remove heavily tinted windows from their cabs in Dudley over safety concerns.

Drivers claimed they are being forced to shell out hundreds of pounds to replace factory-fitted windows on their vehicles because they do not meet council safety regulations.

There is a rule that at least 40 per cent of light must be able to travel through back windows of Hackney carriages and private hire taxis in order to be granted a licence by Dudley Council.

Council bosses are set to give cabbies three months in which to have the windows changed before any sanctions are imposed.

The council previously said the rules helped passenger safety in the light of a child sexual exploitation review following incidents elsewhere in the country.

Dudley Private Hire and Taxi Association chairman, Shaz Saleem, said: "I think it is scaremongering. There is no evidence of crimes relating to tinted windows."

Dudley Council strategic director, Alan Lunt, said in a report to the committee: "Dudley's policy on tinted glass in private hire and hackney carriage vehicles has remained unchanged for many years."

It was being discussed this week.

# Council-backed health services are under threat

**HEALTH and voluntary services are under threat across Dudley borough, it has been revealed, as massive council cuts bite.**

Jobs could be lost as part of a restructure of cash-strapped Dudley Council's public health department while plans to slash £3 million in funding of voluntary groups could have a major impact on services.

The authority's health boss Rachel Harris said she could not rule out redundancies as part of the restructure. The public health department has been identified as one of the key areas where cash can be saved as the authority aims to cut spending by £20m over the next three years.

Councillor Harris warned some health services provided by the council, such as weight loss and sexual health, could be axed.

### Reduction

She said: "We are still trying to work it out. I suspect we will have a very different skill mix which may inevitably mean some people we won't be able to employ."

Councillor Harris said public health would be hit by a £1m reduction in funding from the Government over the next two years on top of £1.3m that has already been cut.

Voluntary groups fear they could be left in ruins due to huge funding cuts. Groups which serve 45,000 people could be affected over

By Richard Guttridge

the next three years with almost a third warning they will have to cut services as a result.

Job losses are also predicted - with more than a quarter of groups fearing they will be forced to make redundancies across the 1,000 people employed within the sector by 2019.

Andy Gray, spokesman for the Dudley Voluntary Sector Network, said: "We understand the very difficult financial issues the council is facing. But we do want to send a clear and constructive message to Dudley Council that general cuts, without thought to the voluntary and community sector, will have a potentially devastating impact on many people's lives."

Council finance chief David Sparks said the authority had been forced to make cuts.

## Driver cut free after head-on smash



The scene of the two-car collision at Thornhill Road

Photo: Woodgate Fire

A WOMAN was cut free from a car after it ploughed through a fence after a head-on smash in Halesowen.

Two cars were involved in the crash which led to traffic chaos during the morning rush hour on Tuesday.

Debris was scattered in the aftermath of the crash in Thornhill Road outside Huntingtree Park. The Ford Fiesta had gone through a fence. A BMW was also involved with the bumper and bonnet destroyed.

Firefighters helped to release a woman trapped inside a white Ford Fiesta at around 8am. They removed a door to allow paramedics to help treat injured woman.

She was taken to hospital along with a child for treatment. It is believed the woman suffered from a back injury, whilst the child and another adult were taken to hospital for precautionary checks.

Ambulance spokesman Murray McGregor said: "Two adults and a child were taken to Russells Hall Hospital to be checked but their injuries are not thought to be serious."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Outcry after bus service is axed

FEARS have been raised that people who rely on public transport could be left stranded after a rural bus service was axed.

The number 147 will no longer run between Halesowen and the village of Catshill, under changes announced by operator First Worcestershire, in a bid to cut costs.

The company said that it needed to focus resources on where demand was the highest.

Romsley Parish Council said it was disappointed with the decision. It said in a statement: "Buses are a vital part of Romsley and Hunningtree's infrastructure. They are relied upon by our parishioners to get to the nearest town for vital services or to facilitate onward journeys."

#### Watchdog halts shops takeover

THE competition watchdog has slammed the brakes on the £335 million takeover of new Birmingham shopping centre Grand Central by Bullring owner Hammerson.

It is now launching an investigation to assess whether the deal, which brings together Birmingham's two major shopping centres, hits competition.

Hammerson bought Grand Central at New Street Station from Birmingham Council and Network Rail. The Competition & Markets Authority on Monday halted the merger while it investigates the implications.

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IN MY VIEW  
with Mark Andrews

# Pardon but it explains lot about X Factor

LOUIS Walsh, the man who brought us Westlife, Boyzone and Shayne Ward, says he is going deaf. Which explains how a lot of the acts on X Factor have somehow managed to get so far.

Still could be worse. Spare a thought for the rest of us. Some of us can actually hear them.

YOU know, there are those odd occasions when I think our politicians could learn from their counterparts in other countries when it comes to making their work more interesting.

Take for example the deputy leader of Portugal's Labour Party, Jose Manuel Coelho. Last week he was feeling a little miffed about plans to cut his salary, and to reinforce his point in a parliamentary debate, he took off his shirt and trousers while shouting something about "rotten justice". To complete the performance, he was then seen walking out of the parliament wearing just his socks, and boxer shorts, clutching a briefcase and what appeared to be a photograph of The Weakest Link.

Now, I can see there might be a downside if Jeremy Corbyn tried to replicate that look, but hey, I'm sure nobody would object if he kept his vest on.

Meanwhile, over in the Ukraine last year, MP Oleh Barna took exception to something prime minister Arseny Yatsenyuk said. And despite actually being in coalition with Arseny, old Oleh decided the appropriate response would be to lift him from the podium and carry him away. And while this was going on, for some unexplained reason, the prime minister started frantically waving a bunch of red roses as Oleh lifted him over his shoulder.

And then we come to our old friend Robert Mugabe, who belied his youthful good looks with a party to mark his 92nd birthday last week. When a journalist asked him if he had given any thought to who might replace him when he retired, he replied: "Do you want me to punch you to the floor?"

One suspects getting beaten up by a 92-year-old would probably have dented the newsman's pride rather more than his face.

And Poland is now governed by the Prawo i Sprawiedliwosc party. Or the the PIS Party as it is more commonly abbreviated.

Is it me, or do you think we are possibly being cheated in this country?

AND congratulations to Rupert Murdoch and Jerry Hall on their wedding. According to reports, the media mogul gave Mick Jagger's ex a £2.8 million marquise-cut diamond engagement ring.

I'm not normally one to give advice to newly weds, but on this occasion, I'm going to make an exception.

Jerry, keep your hands in your pockets when you visit Liverpool.



The Labour leader with Living Water cafe volunteers in Willenhall



The Newport Advertiser – Mr Corbyn was a former reporter



Mr Corbyn in Willenhall with Councillor Sean Coughlan

# Corbyn: My love for the Black Country

Labour's Jeremy Corbyn reveals his West Midland roots – an area he fondly remembers.  
**ROB GOLLEDGE** reports

**HE is the firebrand veteran Labour backbencher who became the surprise Leader of the Opposition after sweeping the party's leadership contest by a landslide.**

But, surprisingly, the radical left winger's roots can be traced back to a leafy fringe of the Black Country.

The Labour leader's parents worked in Stafford and he grew up in nearby Newport over the Shropshire border.

It was here that he also developed a 'great affection' for the Black Country and its industries.

He has told how growing up in the region shaped him but how even at an early age his views found him at odds with his peers.

In a candid interview with over a cup of tea in Willenhall, during a recent visit to the area, Mr Corbyn said: "Whilst I probably had political differences with just about everybody at various times I remember it all extremely well and enjoyably.

## Diversity

"I absolutely do have an affection for the Black Country because the amazing history and diversity of it.

"Different industries took place in different places.

"The nail-makers, the lock-makers, the blast furnaces, and later the car industry, the aircraft industry and all that."

And he sees a bright future for the region.

"I think the renaissance of the Black Country in the sense of culture and art that has



Jeremy Corbyn who visited Willenhall with Andy Burnham recently to launch Labour's gone on has been incredible," he said.

"Also the way in which the centre of Birmingham has been transformed is fantastic."

Mr Corbyn also recalled that he was once in journalism himself, and at one time was a reporter on the Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser, part of the Chronicle's parent group the Midland News Association.

"I was briefly its chief reporter covering everything from crime, education to religious

heavy electrical equipment, based in Stafford – and his mother, Naomi, who taught in both Stafford and Wellington.

He also revealed how his father was part of the founding group that set up the Blists Hill Museum at Madeley.

"I grew up in Shropshire and then in life had the amazing experience of leaving Newport at the end of school and was a volunteer in Jamaica and went there for two years and went around Latin America and so on," he said.

"I then came back and my first job was on a farm.

"I have always been formed by this small town which was my entire world until I left it then went all around the world and end up with the job I am doing now.

"What I liked about it was the sense of community that there was there.

"In a sense everyone is looking for a feeling of community and even in densely-populated urban areas there is still the search for a village belonging.

## Landscape

"Village belonging can be a physical one, can be community one in terms of linguistic or ethnic community it can be lots of things. Shropshire is a wonderful country.

"It's the largest inland county and has that amazing diversity of landscape from the relative flat part in North Shropshire and then Church Stretton and Ironbridge, the cradle of the Industrial Revolution.

"Indeed my dad was one of the people who founded the Blists Hill Museum because he was very keen on industrial history and he worked at GEC in Stafford.

"And my mum was a teacher firstly in Wellington and then in Stafford so I remember their anger when the Shrewsbury to Stafford railway line closed.

"I have a real love of Shropshire and the Black Country and have many happy memories from growing up here."

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# Christian view should not come as shock

UKIP'S demand to gag Dudley's Reverend Andrew Wickens and ban him from future Dudley Council meetings just shows how intolerant they are.

Reverend Wickens should be commended for expressing concern on the possible adverse impact of the EU debate upon refugees and migrants. After all, as a representative of the Christian faith it should not come as a shock to anyone that the reverend stands up for the most vulnerable in society. Isn't that the Christian thing to do?

It may come as a shock to UKIP council-

## EU needs us as trade partners

PRESIDENT Hollande of France warns that there could be 'consequences' if Britain votes to leave the European Union in June.

He warns that migrants could be on our shores and not forming a rather disorderly 'queue' at Calais.

This comes the day after BMW wrote to its UK employees warning of 'consequences' if we leave.

All this goes to show is how worried they are at losing the £50bn annual membership subscription we pay into this 'club'.

The rest of the EU cannot afford to thrust trade barriers up against British goods. They would harm their own economy just as much, if not more, than ours. We import more goods from the rest of the EU than they do from us. They need us.

We are a free state but if the faceless ones in the EU get their way we will become a mere province of the Greater European Superstate. No thanks. We like to decide our own laws. To suit our people.

**M GOUGH**  
Wombourne

lors that not everyone agrees with their cynical attack on refugees and migrants. UKIP in Dudley have now attacked Muslims for wanting a place of worship, Christians, who next?

There are those of us that share the reverend's concerns and that is why we are going to support the Europe-wide demonstration 'Refugees Welcome Here' in London on March 19 as part of the United Nations Anti-Racism day.

**TONY BARNSLEY & JERRY LANGFORD**  
Stand Up to Racism

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

dudley.chrons@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and **MUST** include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Inspiring talks on fighting injustice

ON Monday, March 1 we at Dudley Trades Union Congress were privileged to hear three excellent speakers, all opposing injustices.

We had a junior doctor speaking about their opposition to having a contract imposed upon them by the dreadful, arrogant Jeremy Hunt. She outlined the junior doctors' case most eloquently.

We had a representative of Small Heath School in Birmingham who reported on the staff's unity in opposing the privatisation or academisation of the school. They, like the junior doctors, have had to resort to strike action.

Finally, Dave Smith spoke about blacklisting and how Health and Safety repre-

sentatives and stewards had been unable to get work because they were on an employers' blacklist. The case has been to the High Court and will, I understand, go the European Court of Human Rights.

Three different trades unionists. Three different cases. All united by a common thread of injustice.

Dave Smith was an inspirational speaker and has truly stood up against the big companies.

It was a privilege to hear these people speaking out and opposing bullying. A very inspirational night and Dudley TUC would like to thank the speakers and those who attended.

**C STOLL**  
Halesowen

## Museum is our heritage

I'M dismayed at the decision to close the museum and art gallery in Dudley.

It's an excellent building in the heritage part of town, and does have disabled access, contrary to a council statement.

Who are these councillors kidding?

Cutbacks should start at the top - that would keep the museum open.

Regarding the council decision to reduce litter picks and get people to clean their own streets is perhaps a decent suggestion, but I think community payback offenders could get involved, as they do a great job on parks in my area.

At least the streets would look better.

**P WINCHURCH**  
Dudley

## Overspending has caused these cuts

I REALLY cannot believe the news I am hearing.

Dudley Council has decided to close the Museum and Art Gallery, supposedly saving thousands of pounds, whilst at the same time they are spending a large sum erecting a giant ferris wheel on the useless Stone Street Square.

Stone Street will be out of bounds for weeks we are told, doing untold damage to the trading potential of some of the shops.

It's about time someone questioned all the overspending they have been guilty of in the past, resulting in all the ferocious cuts being implemented now in 2016.

**L SHELTON**  
Dudley

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A coloured photo of a woman being carried in a sedan chair



Grainy but clear image of Japanese Geisha girls



Feeding the poor on Calcutta Maidan is another of the images in the album



Yukon dog team on an Alaskan canyon circa 1900



The ship The Emperor of Japan in a Singapore harbour

# A snapshot of life in globetrotting family

A SERIES of incredible images documenting a family's life lift the lid on an unseen world – and have turned up in Walsall Wood more than a century after being taken.

The collection of photographs and postcards were presented to auctioneers Hansons at a valuation day.

The seller, who lived in the area and asked to remain anonymous, explained she had worked for an elderly lady who left her images to thank her for her hard work. She was given four photograph and postcard albums containing pictures from all around the world dating from around 1900.

The owner is identified in the albums as Alice M Findon who built up a series of images sent to her from globetrotting relatives.

One family member, named only as George, served in the Army, which saw him end up in India. He was based in Alhalabad with his

## MEMORY LANE

By Richard Guttridge

regiment and sent back pictures to an Edith Findon, possibly his wife. Crowds are seen huddled together in one image entitled 'Feeding the poor on the Calcutta Maidan'.

An image of George himself is also included, sitting in a wooden chair in full uniform, the photograph addressed to Soho Road in Handsworth.

It is not known how the images came to be in Alice's possession. Stunning pictures from Canada, China and Japan also form part of the album. Some are in vivid colour not normally associated with photographs from the time.

One is a striking portrayal of Japanese Geisha girls which manages to be both grainy and incredibly clear. Another shows a woman being carried in a sedan chair.

In one, an Indian woman, apparently 114 years old, is standing out-

side a teepee wrapped in a blanket. The ship The Emperor of Japan is also seen lurking ominously in a Singapore harbour in another image.

Others were sent by Alice's brother Walter Findon who travelled to America in search of fame. During his stay in California his photographs and postcards offered a view of what early 20th century America was like.

The San Pedro Harbour and a crowded beach in Long Beach with everyone wearing full Edwardian dress were among images he sent back. According to Alice, Walter emigrated to the States where he starred in silent movies.

The spectacular array of images left auctioneers at Hansons stunned. Head of media Emma Carberry said the collection was unique and delivered a fascinating insight into barely seen parts of the globe at this time.

They go on sale at an auction between March 17 and 19 and are expected to sell for between £150 and £200.



Chickasaw Indian Squaw 'Auntie Kate', aged 114



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# Museum axed but the council tax still rises



Dudley Museum is to close as part of the unprecedented cuts despite a petition signed by 4,000 people wanting to save it

**DUDLEY Museum will close, council tax bills will rise and people will have to ring up to get their streets cleaned under budget cuts aimed to save the borough £20 million.**

Cash-strapped Dudley Council will increase its share of council tax by 1.99 per cent and take up a Government offer to increase it by a further two per cent for adult social care.

This works out to be an extra 77p per week or £40.04p per year for people living in Band C properties.

Reduced litter collection is forecast to save £55,000, with cabinet member for environmental services, Hilary Bills, saying there is 'not enough money' to carry out the collections any

more. She said: "More and more people are looking after their own street and do their own litter picks, including myself. We will still continue to work in the hotspot areas with fly-tipping and assess where we need to go. But it will be an on demand service because we do not have the money to collect the litter anymore."

## Problems

Campaigner Abdul Qadus, of Stourbridge, said that would 'cause a lot of problems environmentally'.

The full council has now made the final decision to go ahead with the cuts. Finance boss Councillor David Sparks said: "To the people in this borough it will mean budgets that will carry cuts to essential services for

years to come. We have never been in this position before. In the past there have been bad years but we have always lived in hope.

"In this unprecedented situation we need to be honest and admit in this council that central government of all persuasions have failed to fully address the need in this borough. None of us got into this position to be making these cuts but we must expect to continue to prepare for them in the borough of Dudley.

One of the toughest decisions was closing Dudley Museum, after 4,000 signed a petition to save the attraction in St James Road. Councillor Khursid Ahmed promised that the collection would be safeguarded and needed to be in a more accessible building.

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# Missing painting of war hero returned to library



The oil painting depicting Brockmoor soldier Sergeant William Jordan rescuing a wounded comrade in 1915

**A PAINTING of a First World War hero in action, which went missing more than two years ago, has been left on the steps of Cradley Library.**

The oil painting depicting a Brierley Hill war hero rescuing a comrade turned up left in a carrier bag

The painting of the brave action of Sergeant William Jordan in 1915 was thought to be lost forever when it went missing, presumed stolen, in September 2013.

It was painted by Francis Gibbons,

who lived in Wordsley and donated it as a gift to be hung in Brierley Hill council chamber in 1917. The picture was later moved to Brierley Hill's library, in Moor Street, and remained there until it was moved to the new library in High Street during the 70s.

The artwork was in tribute to Sgt Jordan, of the South Staffordshire Regiment, who lived in Campbell Street, Brockmoor, but died on the opening day of the Battle of Loos.

Libraries boss Councillor Rachel Harris said: "I'm pleased that after all this time someone has been brave enough to return the painting to us."



Sgt Jordan of the South Staffs Regiment

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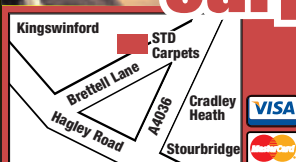
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# A knight to remember



David Threlfall and Rufus Hound in the RSC's new production of Don Quixote Photo: Helen Maybanks

**Don Quixote, Swan Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon**

AN UTTERLY compelling performance by David Threlfall as the befuddled and bewildered old knight, mistaking windmills for monsters and flocks of sheep for armies, will no doubt bring the former Shameless star many deserved plaudits.

His portrayal of the deluded penniless Spanish nobleman with a hopeless devotion to chivalry is a masterclass in tragic-comedy.

He launched his career at the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1980 as the tormented young Smike in Nicholas Nickleby, and returns 36 years later to play a man at the end of his life.

Squinting from behind his straggling beard at a hostile world, his Don Quixote de la Mancha is clearly suffering a form of dementia. Yet he finds a marvellous dignity in his devotion to his moral code, despite the many humiliations heaped upon him from violent angry shepherds, ungrateful freed slaves and a mocking duke and duchess.

He has a fine partner in Rufus Hound as a portly padded Sancho Panza, the long-suffering peasant 'squire' who attempts, but always fails, to keep his master out of trouble.

The sight of the two of them perched upon their ramshackle steeds, plus the slapstick and in-jokes, brought to mind Monty Python. One did expect the Spanish Inquisition, which would not have been so surprising in 17th century Spain.

Director Angus Jackson, a Brum-

mie, has thrown everything but the kitchen sink (though there is a wash basin for a helmet) into this production: songs, puppets, stage fights and lots of comedy.

There are some very witty lines by James Fenton, who has adapted the classic novel by Miguel De Cervantes, who was a contemporary of William Shakespeare.

With a running time of just under three hours (including interval), maybe a couple of the songs could have been cut to make it a little more pacy.

However, it seems harsh to criticise a production with a performance as outstanding as Threlfall's poignant Quixote.

Don Quixote continues in repertoire at The Swan until May 21.

**Leon Burakowski**

# This Rockets into a league of its own

## VIDEO GAMES

by Leon Burakowski

THE arrival of Rocket League for digital download on Xbox One at last lets owners of Microsoft's console join in the fun that 11 million PlayStation 4 and PC gamers are having with the sensational football-racer hybrid.

Like some kind of Tron-meets-Top Gear dream, the neon lit world of Rocket League puts you in charge of a sports car that you use to knock a giant football into the back of the net.

But that's only the bare bones. Your souped-up vehicle can jump and pick up super-speed boosts, whilst the giant ball is also a giant bomb which explodes with considerable force when you get it between the posts.

### Frenetic

And that job is not as easy as it first looks, as you have to master your vehicle, get to grips with the physics of this virtual arena and in online form take on some skilled opponents in frenetic action.

Independent game developer and publisher Psyonix have created an addictive hit with Rocket League, a 'must have' for those who like their arcade e-sports fast and furious.

Plus, from March 8, the Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice Car Park add-on will enable players to put themselves in control of the new Batmobile from the forthcoming movie.

The all-action universe of Naruto Shippuden is brought up to date with **Naruto Shippuden: Ultimate Ninja Storm 4**, available for Xbox One, PlayStation 4 and PC.

Experience the Fourth Great Sh-



Off me head-lamp son... revved up Rocket League action comes to Xbox One

inobi War like never before with immersive battles that give players the chance to become their favourite characters with more than 100 to choose.

The one-on-one multiplayer modes return for offline and online play. Challenge players from across the world or across the couch in mind-bending, brawn-busting battles to determine the ultimate ninja.

The new leader change system means players can instantly swap their main character with their two assist characters, allowing for a higher level of strategy. Quick matches, tournaments and leagues are available for some of the most fast-paced arcade action with those weird twists you only get with the Japanese developers.

Italian developers Milestone's long-awaited **Sebastian Loeb Rally Evo** does not deliver the instant thrills of the DiRT franchise but, if you stick with it, the rally racing game associated with the nine times world champion is a treat for serious rally fans.

There is the usual high level of customisation that players have come to expect from such games, plus superbly realised vehicles (more than 50 to choose from) and stages with over 300 kilometres to rev around, from Monte Carlo to Mexico, Finland to Wales. You can also experience rallycross in LA, take on the challenge of Pike's Peak or simply experience some of the French rally star's career highlights. It's available for Xbox One and PS4.

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# Pupils are praised for their Poppy Appeal efforts

PUPILS at two Dudley schools have been congratulated for their efforts raising money for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Schools across the borough were challenged to raise as much money as possible for the appeal 100 years on from the First World War. Schools across the borough raised £6,121 in total.

Jesson's Primary School in School Street and Holly Hall Academy in Scotts Green Close collected the most.

The children were welcomed into the mayor's parlour at Dudley Council House where they were presented with a trophy and certificate.

Jesson's collected more than any other school, bringing in a total of £781, while Holly Hall was the best performing secondary school with £684.

Priory and Sledmere primary schools were not far behind, coming joint second after both collected £610.

Malcolm Davis, chairman of Dudley branch of the Royal British Legion, said he was delighted with the pupils' efforts. It was the second year that the challenge had been held after it was launched to coincide with the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.

The money is used to help former military personnel and their dependants.

Mr Davis said: "I am extremely pleased, we managed to raise a little bit more than last year. We should never forget the terrible sacrifice those people made. The Royal British Legion has done a great job in making sure no-one ever forgets. Youngsters are doing their bit."



Mayor Steve Waltho presents Priory Primary pupil Oliver Thackwray with a trophy for the most raised

# £800-a-day council chief stays for now

AN £800-a-day temporary chief officer will remain in post at cash-strapped Dudley Council children's services department until at least later this year.

The appointment of Merlin Joseph sparked controversy last year with opposition councillors concerned about her high salary. Dudley Council says it has been trying to recruit to permanently fill the role but has been unsuccessful so far.

Deputy council leader, Councillor Judy Foster, said they will seek to have a permanent replacement later this year.

But she added that the situation would only change if the authority found 'the right candidate'.

Ms Joseph has been taken on as interim chief officer for children's services last year.

Meanwhile, officials await results from an Ofsted inspection carried out on the children's service department at the start of this year.

Dudley Council was told to make improvements within three to six months of an 'adequate' inspection by Ofsted in 2012.

# Male nurse who denied staff kisses loses claim

A MALE nurse who had been accused of grabbing and kissing female staff, including two nurses, at a Dudley hospital has lost a legal claim involving the loss of his job.

A matron and a manager accused Douglas Mateta, of Brierley Hill, of 'aiming for young and newly appointed females' at Russells Hall Hospital. He denied the allegations.

The allegations were made against Mr Mateta as he made a legal claim for constructive unfair dismissal at Birmingham Employment Tribunal against The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust.

After a two-day hearing, tribunal judge Mr David Perry decided in favour of the trust and rejected Mr Mateta's claim.

Mr Mateta had sought compensation totalling more than £71,000 after complaining about pension losses. A claim for discrimination was not proceeded with after Mr Perry said it had not been included in Mr Mateta's statement.

## Misconduct

Mr Tim Sheppard, representing the Trust, said Mr Mateta had been dismissed for gross misconduct and then re-instated after the claimant complained the dismissal decision had been harsh.

The trust relocated Mr Mateta at Corbett Hospital, in Stourbridge, where he had previously worked.

Mr Mateta, aged 41 who is of Zimbabwean origin, later resigned, making his claim for constructive un-

By David Banner

fair dismissal after alleging his feelings had been injured by the Trust's actions of 'torturing his mentality'. He complained he had been forced to resign.

Mr Sheppard accused Mr Mateta of 'inappropriate behaviour' with three staff after allegedly putting his arms around the upper part of a female staff member and being in physical contact with another.

A matron and a manager said two female members of staff had told them Mr Mateta had kissed them on the cheek. The tribunal was told that work routines were changed for some staff because they did not want to work alongside him.

He denied all the allegations in his witness statement and said he loved his job and was half-way through doing his masters degree when the allegations were made. "I was shocked by the allegations," he said, pointing out that he had ten years of service with a good reputation.

Mr Perry said: "I do not believe the claimant was forced to resign."

# Thief given chance to cure alcohol problem

A MAN caught stealing £70 worth of groceries from a Tesco in Dudley has been given a 12-month community order. Sam Johnson, 27, told police after his arrest that he did have a 'few pounds' in his pocket but he needed the money to buy alcohol.

Recorder Barry Berlin told Johnson, who had a string of previous convictions for offences including grievous bodily harm, theft and carrying an offensive weapon, that he should have gone straight to prison. But he added: "I am going to take an exceptional course in your case. I am going to give you the chance to address your alcohol problem."

Johnson, of Bodsey Road, Oldbury, who admitted theft from the Burnt Tree Tesco, was told he must attend an alcohol education group.

Mr Sean Sidhu-Brar, defending, told Wolverhampton Crown Court that Johnson was determined to resolve his alcohol abuse.

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## Religion meets football for Adrian



Football and religion – Reverend Jeremy Oakley with Pauline Tomlinson of the YMCA and broadcaster Adrian Chiles

WEST Bromwich Albion football fanatic Adrian Chiles went back to his roots when he met with a renowned vicar at a recently refurbished YMCA in the Black Country to discuss religion and football.

Former host of BBC TV's The One Show and ITV Sports' football coverage, Mr Chiles, aged 48, from Quinton,

a former Hagley Middle School pupil, is a Roman Catholic.

He met at YMCA headquarters in Carters Green with Baggies season ticket holder Rev Jeremy Oakley, of St James' Hilltop and St Paul's Goldhill, the pair discussed top flight football and the concept of religion for Chiles' BBC Radio 5 Live show.

He then headed to The Hawthorns to watch Albion overcome a spirited Crystal Palace side 3-2.

Reverend Oakley, a board member at YMCA, said: "We had a pleasant chat and it was nice to meet him."

"He said he always gets nervous before the games, but it in the end it turned out to be a good result."



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# We can't rest until son's killer has been caught

A DEVASTATED mother is pleading for anyone with answers to her son's fatal hit-and-run to 'do the right thing' as the first anniversary of his death approaches.

Adam Jones, aged 15, was killed in West Bromwich last March and no one has yet been caught.

His mother Mandy Ruston says she will not be able to move on with her life until the person responsible for her son's death comes forward.

A huge police appeal was launched in the days following Adam's death, including the release of images of the car involved.

West Bromwich Albion even helped boost the appeal by showing the images of the car to thousands on the big screen at The Hawthorns.

## Closure

Almost a year on, the trail appears to have gone cold with the distraught family, from Friar Park, Wednesbury, no closer to the answers they crave.

Mandy said her life had been put on hold and it had been impossible to move on with the killer still free. Neither she nor her husband Mark have returned to work.

She said: "It still feels raw, like it happened yesterday. There has been no closure at all. We are stuck in a rut at the moment. We don't have a normal life, we just know light and dark."

Adam was left to die after being hit by a Volkswagen Bora as he walked across the junction of Beacon View Road and Walsall Road with his bike on March 26. He had been on his way to tend to horses at Sandwell Valley Country Park, where he was due to start an apprenticeship.

The driver fled on foot and has never been traced. Mandy insists she will never give up hope and is determined



Adam Jones, who was killed at 15



The damage to the car involved



Adam's mother Mandy with his grandmother Pearl Wolter and sister Laura

that one day her son's killer will stand in front of a judge.

And she had a message for anyone who is sitting on vital information that could end their heartache: "Do the right thing. Stop protecting them; get them off the streets before he does this to someone else's family."

Adam's heartbroken grandmother Pearl Wolter, aged 63, said: "We are

determined to see this person who is responsible for Adam's death brought to justice. There are people out there covering up what he has done. Instead of coming forward they are going further back. They need to come forward to give our family some closure."

His sister Laura said: "We will carry on fighting until the person who did it is caught."

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All Christadelphian meetings contain praise and thanksgiving. The emphasis during Sunday morning meetings

is on the death of Jesus, but the sadness of this memory is balanced by a firm belief in Bible teaching that Jesus rose again from the dead. Other meetings on Sundays and weekdays provide opportunities to develop greater understanding of Bible teaching and its implications for daily life. Visitors are always welcome.

But can it be true? Did Jesus really die, then live again as the Bible claims? Speakers giving public talks on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March will highlight the evidence available to support this claim. After all, if Jesus did rise from the dead, and is alive right now, it must have implications for our troubled world.

**Do come along to learn more.**



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| 2.00pm <b>Dudley Firs Street</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, Firs Street, Dudley, DY2 7DN  | 6.15pm <b>Oldbury</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, St. James Road, Oldbury, B69 2EP            |
| 6.00pm <b>Dudley Queens Cross</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, High Street, Dudley, DY1 1QT | 2.00pm <b>Rowley Regis</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, 39 Dudley Road, Rowley Regis, B65 8JH  |
| 6.00pm <b>Halesowen</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, B63 3JL    | 2.15pm <b>Wolverhampton</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, 129 Penn Road, Wolverhampton, WV3 0DU |
| 6.00pm <b>Kinver</b><br>Ashwood Park Primary, Bells Lane, Wordsley, DY8 5DJ             | 10.00am <b>Wombourne</b><br>Christadelphian Hall, Church Road, Wombourne, WV5 9EZ          |

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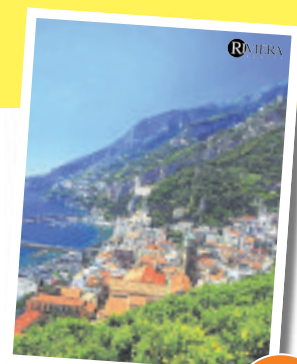
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# Now Josef doesn't need Diamonds

## ALBUM REVIEWS

by Leon Burakowski

A COVER version first got London-based Australian singer-songwriter Josef Salvat noticed, when his take on Rihanna's Diamonds was used to promote Sony's latest HDTV.

But he emerges as a highly promising artist in his own right on his debut album **Night Swim**. Salvat's honeyed vocals are combined with lush and soulful electronic pop. His songs have lyrics that suggest he has probably had his heart broken.

Highlights include the euphoric Paradise, Every Night with its sleepy nocturnal atmosphere and the romantic A Better Word. The slick and addictive Open Season has already been a chart-topper in France while the track to really launch Salvat here could be the potent Shoot & Run.

Salvat sounds like a major new talent with a wide appeal and local music fans can see what the 28-year-old is like in concert when he has a gig at Birmingham's O2 Academy 3 venue tomorrow (Friday).

The third solo album from **Steve Mason** is low-key, laid-back and very likeable with its blend of singer-songwriter acoustic guitar and gentle electronics with some nice touches, such as dub reggae style melodica. Mason's voice is like audio balm for the brain.

**Meet The Humans** occasionally hints at the Scottish songsmith's past, as lead singer with trip hop outfit The Beta Band from 1996 to 2004. But actually it sounds much more like another band, the melancholy mature rock of Elbow. Maybe that's no surprise as Elbow's keyboardist and producer Craig



Meet The Humans – best solo album yet from Beta Band man Steve Mason

Potter recorded the album at Salford's Blueprint Studios.

Highlights include the dreamy Through My Window, the anthemic Like Water and the album's lead track, folk-pop gem Planet Sizes.

**The Feeling** are in danger of giving 'soft rock' a good name with their accomplished fifth album **The Feeling**, the first named simply after the band. Maybe that indicates it's the album the Fill My Little World outfit are happiest with.

Starting strongly with Wicked Heart, The Feeling really hits its stride with new single Spiralling. Real Deal and Repeat To Fade showcase the vocal of Dan Gillespie Sells and have Muse-like grandeur, and Non-Stop American has hints of Young Americans era Bowie.



Josef Salvat has made a highly promising debut with his album Night Swim

The pounding Young Things has Gillespie Sells adopting the viewpoint of a grumpy senior with its wry lyric, whilst Shadow Boxer and What's The Secret provide further highlights.

The Feeling will be in concert at the O2 Academy 2 venue in Birmingham on Friday, March 11. Sony Music have re-released **Off The Wall**, the 20-year-old **Michael Jackson's** classic 1979 album, bundled with a new documentary, Michael Jackson's Journey From Motown to Off The Wall (DVD or Blu-Ray) directed by Spike Lee. Off The Wall found Jackson at the peak of his powers on such disco-funk numbers as Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough, Rock With You and Workin' Day And Night, before Thriller took him to insane levels of fame.

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Flowers and fun figures in ceramic, showing the variety of creations on show which will be on tour in the summer



Councillor Yvonne Davies right, with project director Richard Flatley and service users, from left, Helen Grattage, Tracey Arnold, Maggie Neal and Jenny Barclay at she visits the ceramic Arts Project at Creative Arts in Oldbury



Alan Wilkins paints one of the ceramic flowers at the arts project in the Cyprus Street Industrial Park premises



Some of the beautiful ceramic flowers created at the arts project

# Blooming ceramic art

**A LEADING councillor has given glowing praise to a ceramic garden project in Sandwell.**

Creative Arts in Cyprus Street, Oldbury, has been commissioned by Creative Black Country to set up a touring ceramic garden for the public to experience this summer. Inspired by the 2014 ceramic poppy installation at the Tower of London, the ceramic flowers are being created at workshops predominantly by people with disabilities in Sandwell.

The 25 sq m garden will be capable of being shown both indoors and outside and will feature in

a larger exhibition called Inside Out, Outside In, in Sandwell later this year.

Cabinet member for adult social care and health, Councillor Yvonne Davies, said: "I'm blown away by the project.

"It's really, really inspiring – the artistic merit of the work that you're looking at is top class.

"It's not a small community group doing a bit of clay playing; they're actually artists making real works of art.

"I've been so impressed I've spent £25 and bought a few of the art wares for myself. I've bought a big red flower with a hook on it, which will go in my bathroom actually.

"We're encouraging all community groups to look at where they're going to get money from because the council unfortunately doesn't have it – the days of councils funding all sorts are behind us I'm afraid.

"This is just a real inspiration, because if they can take their next step in opening to the public to sell their work, I actually think they'll be flying, so as a councillor I'm encouraging them to do that," she added.

The council-funded project has attracted the likes of Mayor of Sandwell Barbara Price, Councillor Susan Downing and ceramics artist Jon Williams, who will all be contributing to the project.

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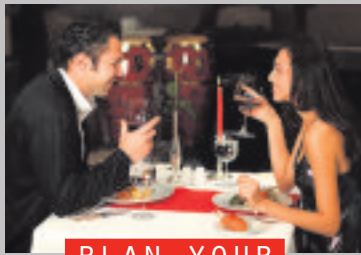


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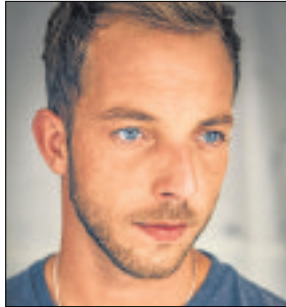
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### James Morrison



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Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,  
WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

**The Mersey Beatles: The Beatles Tribute**  
Sat at 8pm, £16.50  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Russ Ballard**  
Sun at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

**QE2: Queen Tribute**  
Sat at 7pm,  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
B30 3DZ. Call 0121 246 2273

**Defeater**  
Mon at 7pm,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Rumours Of Fleetwood Mac: Fleetwood Mac Tribute**  
Fri at 7.30pm,  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

**James Morrison**  
Mon at 7pm, £26.50  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Flash: Queen Tribute**  
Thu at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

**Los Pacaminos**  
Fri at 7.30pm,  
The Robin, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

**Christina Martin**  
Mon at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

**Josef Salvat**  
Fri at 6pm - 10pm, £9  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Grimes - POSTPONED**  
Fri at 7pm,  
The Institute, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Natty**  
Wed at 7pm,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**The Stranglers**  
Sat at 7pm, £24  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Tyketto**  
Sat at 7.30pm,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

**Los Endos - Ultimate Genesis: Genesis Tribute**  
Sat at 6.30pm - 10.30pm,  
£15  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

**Tragedy: The Bee Gees Tribute**  
Wed at 8pm  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms  
WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

### FOLK & ACOUSTIC

**Yves Lambert Trio**  
Mon at 7.30pm - 10.30pm,  
Kitchen Garden Cafe,  
King's Heath, Birmingham,  
B14 7SA. Call 0121 443 4725

**Mark Radcliffe's Galleon Blast**  
Thu at 7pm,  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,  
WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

**The Arthur Doherty Band**  
Tue at 7.30pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman**  
Fri at 8pm - 11pm,  
The Glee Club,  
Birmingham, B5 4TD.  
Call 0871 472 0400

**Nathan Carter**  
Sun at 7.30pm, £24  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

### CLASSIC & OTHER MUSIC

**CBSO 2015-16 - Friday Night Classics: Symphonic Disco Spectacular**  
Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £47  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Francesco Piemontesi In Recital**  
Wed at 7.30pm - 10pm,  
£9.50 - £28  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

**Gildas Quartet & Jack McNeill**  
Fri at 1.10pm,  
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,  
University of Birmingham,  
B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

**Oslo Philharmonic**  
Sat at 7.30pm - 10pm,  
£9.50 - £50  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Grand Organ Gala**  
Sun at 3pm,  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Callum Smart & Richard Uttley**  
Wed at 7.30pm,  
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,  
University of Birmingham,  
B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

**Lunchtime Concert: Virgo Fedelis Convent Senior School Gospel Choir**  
Fri at 1pm - 1.30pm,  
Birmingham Cathedral,  
B3 2QB. Call 0121 262 1840

**Birmingham Symphonic Brass**  
Sun at 3pm,  
Barber Institute of Fine Arts,  
University of Birmingham,  
B15 2TS. Call 0121 414 7333

**CBSO 2015-16 - Elgar's Second**  
Thu at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

**Musical Picnic (Ages 0-7)**  
Sat at 10.30am,  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

### THEATRE

**The Sooty Show: Sooty In Space**  
Sat, Sun times vary  
Cadbury World, Bournville,  
Birmingham, B30 2LU.  
Call 0844 880 7667

**42nd Street**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at  
7.30pm, Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at  
7.30pm,  
The Rose Theatre,  
Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.  
Call 01562 743745

**Thriller Live**  
Fri at 5pm, 8.30pm, Sat at 4pm,  
8pm,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Goodnight Mister Tom**  
Tue at 7pm, Wed at 1.30pm, 7pm,  
Thu at 1.30pm, 7pm,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Alice In Wonderland**  
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 7pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**The Best Thing**  
Thu at 8pm - 10pm,  
mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**Of Mice And Men**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, £8.50 - £35  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

**Fame: The Musical: Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company**  
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

**M6 Theatre: Tadpoles (Over 5s)**  
Sat at 11.30am, 2pm,  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**Iphigenia In Splott**  
Tue at 8pm, Wed at 8pm, Thu at  
8pm,  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**Hetty Feather**  
Fri at 7pm, Sat at 1pm, 5.30pm,  
£14 - £24  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

**Mary Poppins**  
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
7.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm, Tue at  
7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, 7.30pm,  
Thu at 2pm, 7.30pm, £25.55 -  
£30.60  
Birmingham Hippodrome,  
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

### TALKS

**The Legacy Of Guano**  
Thu at 6pm - 7.30pm,  
Ikona Gallery, Birmingham,  
B1 2HS. Call 0121 248 0708

**Ray Mears: Tales Of Endurance**  
Sat at 7.30pm - 10pm,  
Birmingham Town Hall,  
B3 3DQ. Call 0121 780 3333

### COMEDY

**The Best In Live Stand-up Comedy**  
Fri at 7pm,  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Richard Herring: Happy Now?**  
Tue at 6.45pm - 11pm, £15  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Mark Watson: I'm Not Here**  
Sun at 6.45pm - 11pm,  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Romesh Ranganathan: Irrational**  
Fri at 8pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Comedy Carousel & The Real Food Canteen**  
Thu at 7pm,  
The Glee Club, Birmingham,  
B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

**Ken Dodd: The Happiness Show**  
Sun at 7pm,  
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

**Craig Campbell: Don't Look Down**  
Friday, 7.30pm  
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms,  
WV1 1RQ. Call 0870 320 7000

### CLUBBING

**Andrew Weatherall**  
Sat - Sun at 9pm - 3am,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

**Graeme Park**  
Fri at 9pm,  
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.  
Call 0844 870 0000

### OTHER EVENTS

**Hobbycrafts**  
Thu from 9am  
The NEC Birmingham,  
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

**The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair**  
Wed at 9.30am - 4pm, Thu at  
9.30am - 4pm,  
The NEC Birmingham,  
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

**Cruffs**  
Fri at 8.15am - 6.30pm, Sat at  
8.15am - 6.30pm, Sun at 8.15am  
- 6.30pm,  
The NEC Birmingham,  
B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# Beautiful sound of Paul and Jacqui



Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott from The Beautiful South are reunited and will be playing in Birmingham tonight

**THEIR comeback was one of the biggest stories of recent years. Erstwhile Beautiful South stars Paul Heaton and Jacqui Abbott have enjoyed a string of sell-out shows.**

Their new album, *Wisdom, Laughter And Lines*, was released in October. And the duo are back on the road for a major UK tour, including the

O2 Academy in Birmingham tonight (Thursday).

Their second album together celebrates life's simple pleasures and mixes the political with the personal. Heaton and Abbott have created a formidable partnership. Their voices fit together like hand and glove.

Heaton has the ability to write songs about almost anything but has said he has always struggled to write "out and out" love songs.

"I always struggled to write about love. I did get better with things like *You Keep It All In* and *I'll Sail This Ship Alone* when I was in *The Beautiful South*. But I still struggled to write an out and out love song."

"It's funny considering that my two favourite songwriters are Smokey Robinson and Elvis Costello, who both specialise in writing songs about love. I could never nail it myself but I think that I have got a lot better."

## Emotional Mister Tom

**A POWERFUL stage production of popular children's novel Goodnight Mister Tom, in which a reclusive grump is given a new lease of life by a wartime evacuee, is coming to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre.**

Director Angus Jackson has brought to life Michelle Magorian's emotional family-favourite story in an award-winning adaptation by David Wood that will be staged from Tuesday to Saturday, March 19.

The book, first published in 1981, was turned into a television film starring John Thaw in 1998.

This latest touring production also has star quality with popular RSC/National Theatre, radio and television actor David Troughton as Mister Tom.

David, son of 1960s Doctor Who Patrick Troughton, will be a familiar voice to fans of BBC Radio 4 soap *The Archers*, in which he plays Tony Archer. His TV roles have included Dr Buzzard in *A Very Peculiar Practice*, Ricky Hansen in *New Tricks*, Sgt Harvey in *Jericho* and Stan in *Sky's The Cafe*. He is also father of actors Sam and William Troughton, and of Warwickshire cricketer Jim Troughton.

Birmingham-raised director Jackson, whose theatre career began as an usher at the Symphony Hall, has also directed the Royal Shakespeare Company's new production of *Don Quixote*, with David Threlfall and Rufus Hound, which is currently being performed in Stratford-upon-Avon at The Swan Theatre.

### New music acts worth discovering

THE pick of the new and emerging acts to be heard this week include Mancunian trio *Man Made* at Birmingham's The Ooblock (near The Custard Factory in Digbeth) tonight. Tomorrow Grimes takes her *Acid Reign* Tour to the O2 Academy and Karl Monroe have a hometown headline slot at the O2 Institute.

Acclaimed Welsh songstress Gweno is at the Hare and Hounds in Kings Heath tomorrow and Albrighton singer-songwriter Richi Jones launches his *Into The Fire* EP at the same venue on Monday. Liverpool trio Elevant bring their sonic squall to The Actress and Bishop in the Jewellery Quarter on Saturday.

### Old favourites are back on the circuit

AFTER five years Liverpool outfit The Coral are back with eighth album, *Distance Inbetween*, and a gig at Birmingham's O2 Institute tonight (Thursday). The same venue hosts Reef tomorrow night.

Pauline Black brings The Selector to Wolverhampton Slade Rooms on Saturday, the same night punk veterans The Strangers play classic 1978 album *Black And White* at Birmingham O2 Academy. At Bilston's Robin 2, Fragile with Claire Hamill present a tribute to Yes tonight, Paul Young does his Tex-Mex thing with Los Pacaminos tomorrow and New York rockers Tyketto play Saturday.

### Fame success is mirrored by actors

A HIGH energy new production of *Fame* by Wolverhampton Musical Comedy Company is being staged at the city's Grand Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, March 19.

The musical, based on the hit 1980 movie, is set at New York's School of Performing Arts and follows four students through ups and downs from their first audition to graduation.

The production is also a swansong for talented Wolverhampton actors Luke Bennett and Liam Sargeant. Luke, 17, is off to stage school in London and 20-year-old Liam is to study English Language and Literature at Oxford University.

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**MON 14/03/2016**  
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## CHOICE



Phillip Schofield

**You're Back in the Room (ITV, 8.30pm)**  
New series. Phillip Schofield returns with the comedy game show in which five must team up to win a potential £25,000 by completing apparently simple challenges. However, to claim their prize, the contestants must overcome the hypnotic trance they have been placed under by celebrity mesmerist Keith Barry. For this first edition, Phillip and Keith are joined by Andrea McLean, Sherrie Hewson, Linda Robson, Nadia Sawalha and Kaye Adams – the ladies of Loose Women – who will be pampered by the hypnotised contestants.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Football Focus. 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 2.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 3.00 Plog It! (R) 3.45 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.30 Final Score. 5.00 BBC News. 5.10 Regional Programme. 5.20 Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup. Everton v Chelsea (Kick-off 5.30pm).  
**7.30 The Voice UK.** The battle stages are now over and Paloma Faith, Boy George, Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson each now have a complete team of would-be stars under their tutelage. The next challenge the contestants face is the first stage of the knock-outs, in which they must carefully select and perform a 'killer song' that will elevate them above their team rivals, as the coaches whittle their eight chosen singers down to three.  
**8.45 The National Lottery. Win Your Wish List.** Retired publicans Ray and Diane from Chelmsford, Essex, build a wish-list that incorporates a number of items that celebrate their 40 years of marriage, and Shane Richie offers them a chance to win their dream prizes by answering questions in a selection of tricky categories. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws, presented by Gabby Roslin.  
**9.35 Casualty.** The repercussions of the defibrillator accident continue to reverberate for Lofy, who must face the consequences of his actions by explaining the chain of events at a hearing. When the opportunity to help Lana arrives, he decides to skip his meeting and lend her a hand instead. Meanwhile, Cal hijacks an ambulance to take Ethan and his ailing mother to an old family holiday destination, and while there, the brothers decide to finally read the results from the genetics lab. Medical drama, starring Lee Mead.  
**10.25 BBC News:** Weather.  
**10.45 Match of the Day.** Highlights of the latest Premier League fixtures, including Norwich City v Manchester City at Carrow Road; National Lottery Update.  
**11.30 Film: The Ring.** (2002) Horror remake, with Naomi Watts.  
**1.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.** 1.20 BBC News.

## BBC2

**8.10 Film: Station West.** (1948) 9.40 Film: The Master of Ballantrae. (1953) 11.10 Natural World. (R) 12.00 Rick Stein's India. (R) 1.00 The Best Dishes Ever. (R) 1.30 The Best Dishes Ever. (R) 2.00 Film: An Ideal Husband. (1999) Oscar Wilde comedy drama. 3.30 Coast. (R) 4.15 The TV That Made Me. (R) 5.00 Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R)  
**6.00 Gardeners' World.** (R)  
**6.30 Queen Victoria's Children.** The concluding episode focuses on the monarch's sons, examining how they struggled to assert themselves in the shadow of their father. It explores Victoria's difficult relationships with the eldest, Bertie, whose sexual indiscretions she blamed for having fatally weakened her husband's health, and Leopold, who put up the most determined effort to break free from his mother's control. Last in the series. (R)  
**7.30 Back in Time for the Weekend.** The Ashby-Hawkins family discovers what the future might hold for people's free time. As they reflect on their time-travelling experience, they also reveal how living in the past has changed, how they feel about the present and their hopes for the future. The family have some robotic housework help, and Steph and Rob try a futuristic gym fad, 'Immersive Fitness'. Meanwhile, Seth embraces some cutting-edge technology that takes him away from using screens, and Daisy tries a new-age camera that records her day without cutting her off from her friends. Last in the series. (R)  
**8.30 Dad's Army.** Mainwaring camps the platoon in the middle of a firing range, forcing Corporal Jones to make a desperate effort to raise the alarm. Starring Arthur Lowe and Clive Dunn. (R)  
**9.00 Stag.** Johnners' stags have been reduced to four, and the survivors realise they must make a final stand if they are to avoid sharing their friends' grisly fate. Last in the series.  
**10.00 Film: The Talented Mr Ripley.** (1999) Anthony Minghella's thriller, with Matt Damon.  
**12.10 Line of Duty.** (R) 2.10 Film: The Salt on Sea. (2002) 3.45 This Is BBC Two. 5.45 Great British Garden Revival. (R)

## ITV

**6.00 CITY:** Bottom Knockers Street. 6.15 Bottom Knockers Street. (R) 6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.45 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 6.50 Sooty. (R) 7.05 Super 4. (R) 7.15 Looped. (R) 7.30 Scrambled!: Scrambled! 7.35 Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) 7.50 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. 8.30 Scrambled!: Jessie. 9.05 Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) 9.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 11.20 ITV News: Weather. 11.24 Regional Programme. 11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.30 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Ireland v Italy (Kick-off 1.30pm). 3.25 Live Six Nations Rugby Union. England v Wales (Kick-off 4.00pm). Coverage of the second match from the fourth and penultimate round of fixtures, which comes from Twickenham. An injury-hit Wales recorded a memorable 28-25 victory at this venue when the sides last met during the 2015 World Cup. England held a 16-9 half-time lead, but their opponents produced a fine second half display to turn the match around and eventually qualify for the knockout stages at the hosts' expense. However, England made a strong start to this campaign and will be hopefully of gaining revenge in this contest.  
**6.30 Regional Programme:** Weather.  
**6.45 ITV News:** Weather.  
**7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.** The duo are joined by Craig David for the final finale of this week's show. Mel B interviews dogsitters in I'm a Celebrity, Get Out of Me Earl, while Little Ant and Dec chat to Jennifer Lawrence and her The Hunger Games co-stars. Another lucky player has the chance to win all the items advertised in the break.  
**8.30 You're Back in the Room.** New series. Phillip Schofield returns with the game show in which five strangers are hypnotised by Keith Barry, then asked to complete simple tasks in the hope of winning £25,000.  
**9.30 The Jonathan Ross Show.** Actress Glenn Close, comedy actor and writer Marlon Wayans and X-Files star Gillian Anderson take a seat on Jonathan's sofa.  
**10.30 ITV News:** Weather.  
**10.45 Film: Moonraker.** (1979) Spy adventure, starring Roger Moore.  
**1.20 Jackpot247.** 3.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 3.55 ITV Nightscreen.

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) 6.40 The King of Queens. (R) 7.05 The King of Queens. (R) 7.30 MSA British Rally Championship. 7.55 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 8.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 9.00 The Morning Line. 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Superhumans Show. 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Wolverhampton. 4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me. (R)  
**6.10 Come Dine with Me.** On the final day of the competition in south-east London it is part-time event organiser Gina's turn to throw a dinner party. She rolls out an evening of fine dining inspired by her love of cookery courses, but her culinary prowess fails to make an impact on Vincenzo, as he reveals he already ate dinner at home due to his belief that women can't cook. Meanwhile, Leah reveals a surprising beauty secret from her youth during the main course, before a self-penned poem from the host brings tears to David's eyes, and the winner is revealed. (R)  
**6.35 Channel 4 News.**  
**7.00 Crufts 2016.** Clare Balding hosts further coverage from the second day of the prestigious annual dog show, which this year is celebrating its 125th anniversary. Presenting live from the NEC in Birmingham, Clare is joined by Supertv Professor Noel Fitzpatrick to discuss advances in the field of canine health, and answer viewers' questions. Plus, the host introduces judging in the Working and Pastoral groups.  
**9.00 Lee Evans – Monsters.** The energetic stand-up star rails against the annoyances of modern life, in a performance recorded at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham in 2014. Lee's routine sees him tackling the selfie phenomenon, the problems associated with getting older, and the numerous ways he tries to keep his long-suffering wife happy.  
**10.00 Film: Riddick.** (2013) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Vin Diesel and Katee Sackhoff.  
**12.20 Film: Kick-Ass.** (2010) 2.25 Hollyoaks. (R) 4.30 Ultimate Dealer. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** 8.45 The Fairly OddParents. 9.20 The Saturday Show Live. 11.20 Police Interceptors. (R) 12.20 Police Interceptors. (R) 1.15 Pests Who Hate Vets. (R) 2.15 Psycho Pussies: When Cats Attack. (R) 3.15 90 Cats and Counting: Cat Crazies. (R) 4.15 Kitten Impossible. (R) 5.10 41 Dogs in a 3-Bed Semi. (R)  
**6.10 World That's Funny!** A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world. (R)  
**7.10 5 News Weekend.**  
**7.15 World War II in Colour.** The edition focuses on the final days of Hitler and the Third Reich as German forces were surrounded by Soviet troops from the east and the Allies' advance from the west. (R)  
**8.10 The Gadget Show.** Oris and Jon take on delivery service Amazon Prime using a selection of the latest transport technology, and mobility scooter inventor Colin Furze reveals his latest projects. (R)  
**9.00 The Championship: Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches from the Championship, including Huddersfield Town v Burnley.  
**10.00 Goal Rush: Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present highlights from the League One and League Two, including Burton Albion v Fleetwood Town at the Pirelli Stadium.  
**10.30 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Stabler and Benson investigate the death of a 17-year-old girl and discover a suspect in the case may have been deliberately passing on the HIV virus to his many sexual partners. (R)  
**11.20 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.** Benson and Stabler have to tread carefully when they investigate the deaths of a wealthy couple as find themselves playing a game of politics and double bluff. (R)  
**12.15 SuperCasino.** 3.10 Police Interceptors. (R) 4.00 Carry on Caravanning. (R) 4.50 Divine Designs. (R) 5.20 HouseBusters. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00 Human Planet** 8.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures 9.00 Trapped 10.40 From Andy Pandey to Zebade: The Golden Age of Children's TV 11.40 Duets at the BBC 12.40 Sound of Cinema: The Music That Made the Movies 1.40 Top of the Pops: 1981 2.20 Top of the Pops: 1981 2.55 Virtuoso Violinists at the BBC 3.55 Close  
**ITV2**  
**11.10 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway** 12.45 The Most Impossible Gameshow 1.40 Scorpion 2.35 Film: Nancy Drew (2007) 4.40 Catchphrase 5.45 Film: Legally Blonde (2001) 7.40 Film: Back to the Future Part III (1990) 10.00 The Keith Lemon Sketch Show 10.30 Family Guy 12.00 American Dad! 12.55 Ibiza Weekend 1.50 Beowulf: Return to the Sheldons 2.40 Rixton: The Hot Desk 2.50 Teleshopping  
**ITV3**  
**6.55 Midsomer Murders** 11.00 A Touch of Frost 1.05 Blue Murder 2.25 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.45 Storage Wars** 12.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The opening semi-final. 5.15 Storage Wars 5.45 Storage Wars: Texas 6.45 Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The second semi-final. 11.15 Live FIA Formula E Championship. The Mexico City ePrix. 1.15 Hell on Wheels 2.15 Motorway Patrol 2.45 ITV4 Nightscreen 3.00 Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.30 The Jump: The Final** 1.05 The Goldbergs 3.00 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: Limitless (2011) A failed writer acquires a drug that increases his brain power, but his new abilities attract dangerous attention. Sci-fi thriller, starring Bradley Cooper. 11.05 Tattoo Fixers 12.05 Gogglebox 2.15 The 100 3.00 How I Met Your Mother 3.45 Rules of Engagement 4.55 Revenge  
**Film4**  
**11.00 New in Town** (2009) 1.00 Tooth Fairy (2010) 3.00 Five Children and It (2004) 4.45 Home Alone 3 (1997) 6.55 Admission (2013) 9.00 2 Guns (2013) Two undercover agents become fugitives after a disastrous sting, but each thinks the other is a real criminal. Action adventure, with Denzel Washington. 11.10 Magic Magic (2013) Premiere. A woman suffers from insomnia while on holiday in Chile, causing her grip on reality to weaken as she succumbs to paranoia. Thriller, with Juno Temple and Michael Cera. 1.15 Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) 3.05 Close

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CHOICE



Nikesh Patel

**Indian Summers (Channel 4, 9pm)**  
New series. The drama series set in 1930s colonial India returns, picking up the story three years on from the first series. The British viceroy is seriously injured in a terrorist attack. Aafin is suspected of being involved and tries to keep his double life as a nationalist spy a secret. He discovers Alice has now married an Englishman, but their feelings for each other remain unresolved. Cynthia pushes Ralph to advance his career, but Madeleine has other plans.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **8.15** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News. Weather. **1.15** The TV That Made Me. **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v France (Kick-off 3.00pm). **5.05** Songs of Praise. **5.40** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.30** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Adam Henson visits Aberystwyth University to meet students who are working towards a career in farming, and takes a look at some features on young farmers from past episodes. Highlights include Matt Baker meeting twin sisters looking to break into farming, Helen Skelton chatting to a farmer who became the world darts champion, and Radio 1 DJs Scott Mills and Chris Stark working at Vauxhall City Farm. Including Weather for The Week Ahead. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents an episode focused on Indian art and culture from the Neasden Temple in North London, revealing the connections between British and Indian history. Among the artefacts being valued are ceremonial robes used in the Delhi Durbar, a ring given to a boy by a princess, a Rolls Royce made for the Maharajah of Jodhpur and a bracelet found in a children's toy box that turns out to have a surprising background. **9.00** The Night Manager. Pine gets involved in an arms deal, but his relationship with Jed jeopardises his cover. Burr begins to suspect that Roper has been buying arms from the British government. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's only Premier League fixture, which was Aston Villa v Tottenham Hotspur at Villa Park. **11.00** Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Action from the sixth round, including this afternoon's clash between Manchester United and West Ham United. **11.30** Film: It's a Wonderful Afterlife. (2010) Supernatural comedy, starring Shabana Azmi. **12.45** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.50** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.45** An Island Parish. (R) **7.15** This Farming Life. (R) **8.15** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **11.45** Winter Youth Olympic Games. **12.15** MOTD Extra. **1.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.00** Escape to the Continent. (R) **3.00** Film: Strictly Ballroom. (1992) Australian dance comedy, starring Paul Mercurio. **4.30** Gymnastics World Cup. **6.00** Flag! Mark Stacey and Adam Partridge value items in Bangor, north Wales, including a collection of thimbles and an antique sextant. Presenter Paul Martin also explores one of Thomas Telford's feats of engineering when he visits the Menai Suspension Bridge. (R) **7.00** Who's the Boss? (R) **8.00** Steve Backshall's Extreme Mountain Challenge. Part two of two. The naturalist reaches the peak of one of Venezuela's tepui mountains, before joining a party of Italian cavers as they venture into the unexplored caverns within. Inside, they discover strange wildlife and evidence of the geological forces that give the tepuis their unusual shape. Finally, the team returns to the ground by abseiling down the Angel Falls, the world's highest waterfall. **9.00** Let's Play Darts for Sport Relief 2016. Gabby Logan hosts the final of the charity darts challenge from the Lakeside, Frimley Green, in which professional players team up with celebrities. She is joined by all the competitors to take part in the earlier rounds, who look back on their performances and the highs and lows of the tournament. Last in the series. **10.00** Thirteen. Ivy is put under pressure to relive her ordeal, but her responses make Merchant suspicious that she is lying. She turns to Tim for support, only to suffer a crushing betrayal. **11.00** The People v OJ Simpson: American Crime Story. Prosecutor Marcia Clark faces negative feedback, while differing goals divide the defence team as preliminary hearings and arduous jury selection get underway. (R) **11.50** Film: The Magdalene Sisters. (2002) Drama, starring Geraldine McEwan, Anne-Marie Duff and Eileen Walsh. **1.45** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.40** Holby City. (R) **3.40** This is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITY: Bottom Knockor Street. **6.15** Bottom Knockor Street. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.05** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Looped. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled! The Tom & Jerry Show. (R) **9.25** Formula E Highlights. **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.45** River Monsters. (R) **2.45** Big Star's Little Star. (R) **3.45** Off Their Rockers. (R) **4.15** Film: For Your Eyes Only. (1981) James Bond spy thriller, starring Roger Moore. **6.35** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News; Weather. **7.00** Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands. Rheda escapes from her captors in Bregan, only to find that Abreca's army is closing in on her kingdom, and he has gathered many allies to help him in his plan to take over Herot. A last minute intervention from Slean may ward off disaster, but Rheda realises she must make a great sacrifice to persuade an old foe to help her. **8.00** The Story of Cats. How cats went from wild predators to domestic pets, exploring why humans are inclined to find kittens cute and how future generations of cats may lose their hunting instincts. **9.00** Doctor Thorne. Sir Roger falls seriously ill and is likely to die soon. His son arrives in town, and to Dr Thorne's horror, takes a liking to Mary. Miss Dunstable urges Frank to follow his heart. **10.00** ITV News; Weather. **10.15** Houdini & Doyle. New series. Arthur Conan Doyle and Harry Houdini help police investigate the case of a nun allegedly killed by a ghost. **11.15** Six Nations Highlights. Action from the fourth round of the championship, with highlights of England v Wales at Twickenham, Ireland v Italy at the Aviva Stadium and Scotland v France at Murrayfield. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.15** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** The King of Queens. (R) **7.05** The King of Queens. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** Film: Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days. (2012) Family comedy sequel, starring Zachary Gordon. **3.20** Film: Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief. (2010) **5.40** Channel 4 News. **6.00** The Secret Life of the Zoo. Cameras follow Chester Zoo's four new fledgling Humboldt penguins who are being brought up apart from the main colony until they're old enough to compete for fish in the main pool. They're keen to make a break for it and join the adults, but when they're finally free to go they have other ideas. Elsewhere, Niall the chimpanzee keeper has known chimp Boris for 44 years. When the ape captures a moorhen chick, Niall must use his powers of persuasion to negotiate the safe release of his hostage. (R) **7.00** Crufts 2016. Clare Balding hosts coverage of the final day of the 125th annual dog show from the NEC in Birmingham. Highlights of the day's main arena events include the winner of the Friends for Life competition, the Flyball and International Agility finals, judging of the Terrier and Hound groups and the announcement of Best in Show 2016. Plus, discussion of canine health and welfare with from Professor Noel Fitzpatrick, Kate Bevan and Nick Blayney. Last in the series. **9.00** Indian Summers. New series. The drama series set in 1930s colonial India returns, picking up the story three years on from the first series. The British viceroy is seriously injured in a terrorist attack. Aafin is suspected of being involved and tries to keep his double life as a nationalist spy a secret. He discovers Alice has now married an Englishman, but their feelings for each other remain unresolved. Cynthia pushes Ralph to advance his career, but Madeleine has other plans. **10.00** Film: Slumdog Millionaire. (2008) Danny Boyle's Oscar-winning drama, with Dev Patel. **12.20** The Last Leg. (R) **1.20** Embarrassing Bodies Down Under. (R) **2.15** Come Dine with Me. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Ticky Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.50** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.20** Jelly Jam. (R) **9.35** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** The Fairly OddParents. **10.30** The Championship: Football League Tonight. (R) **11.30** Goal Rush: Football League Tonight. (R) **12.00** Film: Zathura: A Space Adventure. (2005) Family sci-fi adventure, starring Josh Hutcherson and Jonah Bobo. **2.00** Film: Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son. (2011) **4.15** Film: Flubber. (1997) Children's comedy remake, starring Robin Williams. **6.00** Now That's Funny! A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring laugh-out-loud unexpected personal moments now being shared with the world. **7.00** Bugdies Make You Laugh Out Loud. Compilation of internet videos featuring the antics of bugdies and other birds, from flying falts to performing parrots and real-life angry birds. **8.00** Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas. Simon Pegg joins one of this episode's contestants on stage to assist with an illusion involving a wind-up watch. Plus, a selection of card tricks, including one that uses a violin. **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Film: Jonah Hex. (2010) Premiere. A disfigured bounty hunter able to communicate with spirits of the dead is captured by the Government who offer him a deal. In return for his freedom, he must defeat a plan to take over the country that is being masterminded by the man who killed his family and left him horribly scarred. Fantasy Western, starring Josh Brolin. **10.20** Film: Angels & Demons. (2009) Academic adventurer Robert Langdon is called in by the Vatican to search for four kidnapped men in line to become Pope. Thriller sequel, starring Tom Hanks. **12.50** Tattoo Disasters UK. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Benefits by the Sea: Jaywick. (R) **4.00** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Jigs & Wigs: The Extreme World of Irish Dancing **7.30** What Do Artists Do All Day? **8.00** Pappano's Classical Voices **9.00** Horizon: Secrets of the Solar System **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Film: In the House (2012) **12.10** Len Goodman's Big Band Bonanza **1.10** A Blackpool Big Band Boogie: Jools Holland and His Rhythm & Blues Orchestra **2.10** The Story of British Pathe **3.10** What Do Artists Do All Day? **3.40** Close **ITV2**  
**11.55** Take Me Out **12.55** Film: Nancy Drew (2007) **3.00** Film: The Incredible Hulk (2008) **5.05** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **6.45** Film: Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (2005) **9.00** Ibiza Weekend **10.00** Family Guy **10.30** Bordertown **11.00** Family Guy **12.00** American Dad! **12.55** The Cleveland Show **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3**  
**11.50** Wycliffe **12.55** Lewis **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Carry On Forever **10.00** Sunday Night at the Palladium **11.00** Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Donny Osmond **12.00** Like Father, Like Son **2.45** May the Best House Win **4.25** On the Buses **5.20** Judge Judy **ITV4**  
**12.45** Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The opening session of the final. **5.15** Storage Wars **6.45** Live Snooker: World Grand Prix. The second session of the final. **11.15** Film: Above the Law (1988) **1.20** Ax Men **2.20** Motorway Patrol **2.45** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4**  
**12.30** The Goldbergs **2.30** Film: Big (1988) **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **10.00** Tattoo Fixers **12.00** Rude Tube **1.10** Virtually Famous **2.00** The Aliens **2.55** Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. **3.40** Hollyoaks **Film4**  
**1.00** Aliens in the Attic (2009) **2.40** Unidentified Flying Oddball (1979) **4.30** Rat Race (2001) **6.50** The Three Musketeers (2011) **9.00** A Good Day to Die Hard (2013) John McClane goes to Moscow and helps his CIA agent son stop the Russian Mob from stealing nuclear weapons. Action adventure sequel, with Bruce Willis. **10.50** Pusher (2012) A drug dealer ends up in debt to a sadistic gangster and faces a race against time to pay back the money. Crime thriller remake, starring Richard Coyle. **12.35** Underworld: Awakening (2012) **2.15** Adam & Paul (2004) **4.00** Close

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## FILM CHOICES

### MONDAY

#### A Mother Betrayed, Channel 5, 3.15pm

Five years after her husband is run off the road and killed by a mysterious driver, the head of a prosperous architectural firm decides to remarry. However, she's unaware that her new spouse has a devious plan to steal her daughter, her sanity and even her life. Psychological thriller, starring Lynn Collins, Adam Kaufman and Joanna Cassidy. (2015)

### TUESDAY

#### After All These Years, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A woman learns her husband intends to leave her for another woman shortly before their wedding anniversary. She goes on the run after becoming a suspect when he is found murdered, intending to identify the real killer with the aid of her friends and an old flame. Mystery, starring Wendie Malick and Gregory Harrison. (2013)

### WEDNESDAY

#### Damaged, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A high-school teacher's life is turned upside down when a new student moves into the area and they develop a mutual attraction for each other, leading to a string of undesirable events. Thriller, starring Chris Klein, Merritt Patterson and Tasya Teles. (2014)



For Your Eyes Only, Friday, ITV, 11.10pm

### THURSDAY

#### Nightmare 911, Channel 5, 3.15pm

A police 911 operator is fired after mistaking a real murder for a prank call, and feeling guilty for allowing the crime to happen, she sets out to find the killer herself before he or she strikes again. Thriller, starring Fiona Gubelmann, Scott Bailey and John Lee Ames. (2015)

### FRIDAY

#### For Your Eyes Only, ITV, 11.10pm

James Bond goes in search of a British weapons system aboard a sunken vessel before it falls into the hands of enemies who will use it to deactivate all Western submarines. Unfortunately, his mission is hindered by a crossbow-toting woman out to avenge her father's murder. Spy thriller, starring Roger Moore, Topol, Julian Glover, Carole Bouquet, Jill Bennett and Lynn-Holly Johnson. (1981)

# Famous faces do their bit for a good cause

It may not be quite as big as Comic Relief and Children in Need, but Sport Relief can claim to be TV's most painful telethon.

In the years since its inception in 2002, athletes and celebrities have been falling over themselves (sometimes literally) to push their bodies to the limits while raising massive amounts of cash.

In 2006, David Walliams's swim across the Channel grabbed the headlines, and he's since swam the Strait of Gibraltar and the River Thames.

Groups of celebrities have accomplished feats such as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End, while Christine Bleakley, Davina McCall and Helen Skelton have all accomplished amazing events.

But the most impressive of all is Eddie Izzard. He ran 43 marathons in 51 days in 2010 – this time around he's been attempting to complete 27 such runs in as many days, to mark the number of years Nelson Mandela spent in prison.

Oh yes, and he's been doing it in South Africa, where it has often been 30 degrees by 10am. We'll get to see how he did in this programme, as well as how much money he raised.

Other famous faces who have been pushing themselves to the limits include Radio 1's Greg James, who completed five triathlons in five days in the middle of winter, while Jo Brand walked across the country from Hull to Liverpool, in often appalling weather.

This evening, at east London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, leading lights from the worlds of sport, music and entertainment will gather to see how more athletes and celebrities can inspire us to hand over our cash.

Top of the bill is Michael Crawford, who will reprise his 1970s role as calamity-prone Frank Spencer in a one-off Some Mothers Do Awe'Em sketch that will see the hapless character in a number of calamitous escapades culminating in a chance meeting with cycling legend Bradley Wiggins.

Steve Redgrave and Andrew Flintoff don their kits once more for an edition

of the sports challenge Clash of the Titans. They will lead teams that will also include Darren Gough, Paddy McGuinness, Harry Judd, Sophie Raworth and Hugh Dennis.

The show will also feature live music performances, including the first performance of the official charity single, while famous faces including Danny Dyer, Marvin and Rochelle Humes show how the money raised could help change lives both here in the UK and around the world.

Members of the public have also been encouraged to take part in the Sport Relief Mile, Swimathon and Cycle which will see people all over the UK raising money through sponsorship from their friends and family.

But if putting on your tracksuit and trainers and spending a few minutes huffing and puffing in your local park isn't your cup of tea, then settle down in front of the TV for five and a half hours of entertainment – and make sure you have your credit card handy so you can pledge money to some of the worthy causes featured in between the fun and games.



Fundraising fun, Sport Relief 2016, Friday, BBC1, 7pm

## BEST OF THE REST

### MONDAY

#### Only Connect Sport Relief Special

BBC2, 8.30pm

When it comes to taxing the old grey matter, Victoria Coren Mitchell's quiz could win gold if there was a cerebral gymnastics contest at the Olympics. So it's a good job some of the smartest folks in the media and showbusiness have been assembled for this charity edition of the contest. Hugh Dennis, musician Julian Lloyd Webber and writer Lynne Truss take on writer and comedian David Baddiel, poet John Cooper Clarke and novelist Philippa Gregory. Can they make the connection between a series of eclectic clues? Will Lynne's team play, win and leave, or will they be eclipsed by David and company? And just what is the connection between Donkey, Xanthus, Balaam's ass and Mister Ed? There's only one way to find out.

### TUESDAY

#### Inside Obama's White House

BBC2, 9pm

For millions of folks, religious or otherwise, Easter is synonymous with food, whether it's hot cross buns or novelty chocolate eggs. Taking a break from her Great British Bake Off duties, Mary Berry takes a closer look at the connection between faith and food

at one of the most important times on the Christian calendar. And if you're lacking inspiration on what to rustle up over the Easter holidays, then rest assured that the beloved baker will be sharing some of her own favourite recipes, including Simnel cake, roast lamb, and hot cross buns. In episode one, Mary discovers the traditions followed by diverse British families and communities during Lent and Good Friday, and the food that unites them.

### WEDNESDAY

#### Brendan O'Carroll: My Family at War

BBC2, 9pm

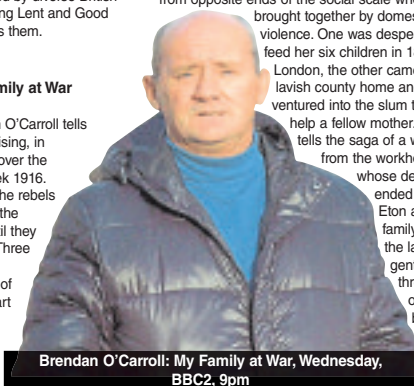
Writer and comedian Brendan O'Carroll tells the story of the Irish Easter Rising, in which 1,600 Irish rebels took over the centre of Dublin in Easter week 1916. Despite overwhelming odds, the rebels held out against the forces of the British Empire for six days until they were driven into submission. Three of the rebels were O'Carroll's uncles, and on the centenary of the revolt, he looks into the part his family played in it, and explores how the Rising signalled the birth of today's Republic of Ireland.

### THURSDAY

#### The Secret History of My Family

BBC2, 8pm

The documentary charting social history by exploring different family trees continues with the story of Lavinia and Florence, two Victorian women from opposite ends of the social scale who were brought together by domestic violence. One was desperate to feed her six children in 1880s London, the other came from a lavish county home and ventured into the slum to help a fellow mother. The film tells the saga of a woman from the workhouse whose descendant ended up at Eton and a family from the landed gentry who threw off the burden of their past.



Brendan O'Carroll: My Family at War, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

### FRIDAY

#### Unreported World

Channel 4, 7.30pm

New series. For the first of the programme's 31st series of hard-hitting reports, Marcel Theroux and his director Victoria Bell head to Malaysia, where the government has declared transgender people to be enemies of Islam. The pair meets the transwomen who are being forced to live in what human rights groups claim is one of the worst places in the world to be transgender. The duo also accompany members of the country's religious police force as officers crack down on anything they consider to be un-Islamic.

### NCIS

#### Channel 5, 9.55pm

The NCIS team is assigned to a joint terrorism task force by the Secretary when a Moscow-born scientist who it is believed may have been targeted by the Russians for selling state secrets, is found dead. The trail appears to lead to a friend of Sofia's, another scientist who worked for Russia and who may have succumbed to professional jealousy. However, when she too is found dead, the team discovers the hallmarks of Sergei Mishnev, the terrorist who nearly killed Gibbs. Starring Mark Harmon, Michael Weatherly and Pauley Perrette.

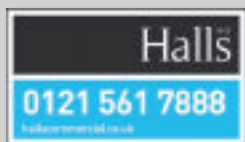
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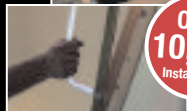
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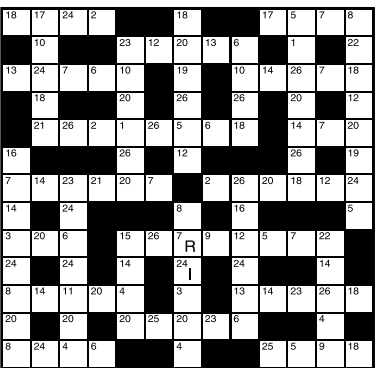
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Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:  
L D U B S H P V K Z O J T  
M Y N W C Q I G E X R A F

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

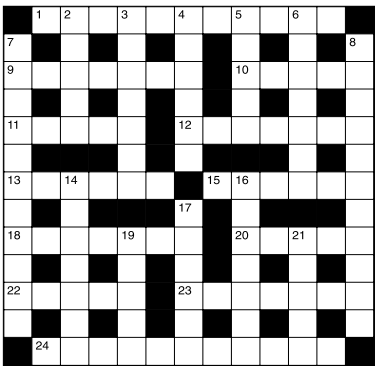
Cryptic Clues:

Across

- 1. Make up the deficiency with a denture, perhaps (5,3,3)
- 9. Unvarying dress (7)
- 10. A current issue in a letter (5)
- 11. Tree, evidently of some antiquity (5)
- 12. Housing row (7)
- 13. Climbs and balances (6)
- 15. Doesn't sound it, but it's hot (6)
- 18. When an I.O.U. runs out it could well be (7)
- 20. A papal order to cause dismay (5)
- 22. Insist on having things just right (5)
- 23. Noisy new trio love us (7)
- 24. Unemployed jester who won't let anyone take him in (7,4)

Down

- 2. I am taken in by a fat Scottish landowner (5)
- 3. Southern company press for means of punishment (7)
- 4. A motto put out for the vegetarian (6)
- 5. A duck I'd always put out (5)
- 6. Not a sunny greeting (3,4)
- 7. Odd way in which the debtor finds himself (5,6)
- 8. One who thinks of things first? (11)
- 14. A stirring instruction to the player (7)
- 16. Intercept an order to execute? (4,3)
- 17. It swoops down on fish, so rises with its quarry (6)
- 19. Go beyond an alfresco celebration (5)
- 21. In short, a final result of a snap decision (5)



Quick Clues:

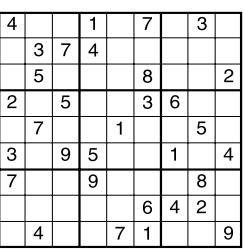
Across

- 1. Stormy (11)
- 9. Artist (7)
- 10. Earlier (5)
- 11. Fat (5)
- 12. White ant (7)
- 13. Pact (6)
- 15. Spent (6)
- 18. Disregard (7)
- 20. Evade (5)
- 22. Characteristic (5)
- 23. Mohammedan (7)
- 24. Warlike (11)

Down

- 2. The pick (5)
- 3. Long-suffering (7)
- 4. Elf (6)
- 5. Superior (5)
- 6. Use (7)
- 7. Favourable moment (11)
- 8. Impiety (11)
- 14. Etch (7)
- 16. Violinist (7)
- 17. Cord (6)
- 19. Praise (5)
- 21. Devil (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	7	9	1	3	6	4	2
3	6	4	2	9	7	5	8
2	8	1	5	6	4	7	9
6	1	5	3	4	9	2	7
4	9	2	7	8	5	3	1
7	3	8	6	2	1	9	5
8	4	6	9	5	3	1	2
9	2	7	8	1	6	4	3
1	5	3	4	7	2	8	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Straight; 5 Stud; 9 Once; 10 Interest; 11 Final; 12 Epitaph; 13 Under employed; 18 Rest-cure; 19 Toss; 20 Blemish; 21 Forge; 22 Date; 23 Progress. Down: 2 Tension; 3 Average; 4 Hunger-marcher; 6 Therapy; 7 Ditched; 8 Denial; 13 Unrobbed; 14 Descent; 15 Recoil; 16 Outdoor; 17 Ensigns. QUICK - Across: 1 Deletion; 5 Spin; 9 Waspy; 10 Striking; 11 Quiet; 12 Instant; 13 Senselessness; 18 Outright; 19 Step; 20 Fiction; 21 Grain; 22 Dusk; 23 Resemble. Down: 2 Erasure; 3 Express; 4 Outside chance; 6 Primate; 7 Negate; 8 Kisses; 13 Scoffed; 14 Notices; 15 Elicit; 16 Nostrum; 17 Special.

Quiz

- 1. On which date is St George's Day?
- 2. Of which island group is Jura a member?
- 3. Who painted A Bigger Splash in 1967?
- 4. Which disease is also called varicella?
- 5. Who founded the Grey Friars in 1209?
- 6. Which part of the body is affected by impetigo?
- 7. With which instrument is Fritz Kreisler associated?
- 8. Who played vet James Herriot in the TV series All Creatures Great and Small?
- 9. In which US state is Las Vegas?
- 10. In geometry, what do 60 minutes make?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Balliol; 2 Bruce Kent; 3 Russian; 4 Molière; 5 John Prescott; 6 Miklós Rózsa; 7 Lill Folks; 8 Jeremy Thorpe; 9 Kurt Vonnegut Jr; 10 James Baker.
- Niner: REVOLTING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

3267 gives a servant,  
498825 gives a vagrant,  
127 gives a rotter.



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28 MAY • MOTOWN • TOM JONES STORY  
4 JUN • MAMMA MIA  
11 JUN • SUNNY AFTERNOON  
25 JUN • PHANTOM • LES MIS  
16 JUL • MAMMA MIA • BEAUTIFUL  
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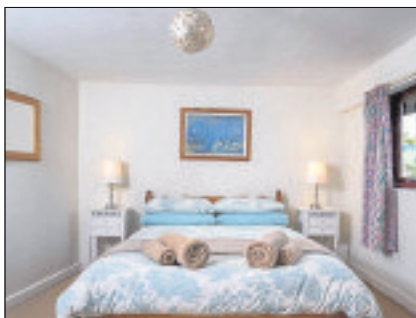
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**AAH, the Brecon Beacons. Visions of beautiful barren mountains where only the most dedicated hikers and bikers go with their backpacks and hi-vis vests – right? Wrong! So wrong...**

Never have I been so impressed with one particular area and all it has to offer. The pretty towns – even in February; the friendliness of people; and the stunning wildlife and scenery, even if you don't make it to the top of one of those mountains which are a constant backdrop.

Brecon Beacons Holiday Cottages was established 30 years ago by owner, Elizabeth Daniel who has grown the business and built a fantastic selection of unique properties for hire, be they barn conversions, stone cottages, manor houses, townhouses or quirky listed buildings.

With an emphasis on providing as much local knowledge of the area they are obvi-

**By Graeme Andrew**

ously so proud of, the team are always on hand to offer any tips and advice about what is going on around them. There is also network of local businesses and services which can be used at a discount, via various vouchers available.

We stayed at a stunning little cottage called the Counting House in the picturesque village of Talybont-on-Usk, with both the River Usk and the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal running through it.

Built partly on stilts, the Counting House dates back to 1814 situated at the end of the Brynroer tramroad. It is therefore a grade II listed building, predominantly made of stone rubble, with a Welsh slate roof, and has various delightful features including gothic archways and upside down accommodation offering spectacular views over the canal and the Vale of Usk into the distance.

It has just been renovated and offers much more than you would expect from any cottage in any

part of the country – just don't expect the internet and mobile phone service you are used to! My wife and I unwittingly shared these out. My phone could get texts and calls and she was able to log onto her email account!

A first morning walk along the canal was just the ticket for getting some of that fine country air into our lungs, with a gentle undulating session carried on in one of the fine hostels Talybont had to offer. We plumped for the White Hart Inn. Truth be told, it was the nearest to our cottage, so not too far for us to stagger back afterwards! But the roaring open fire, lovely Rhymney's ale and fine food certainly won us over.

We had days out in Abergavenny and Brecon, each with their own attractions, and each with a stunning mountain as a backdrop – Sugar Loaf and Pen Y Fan, respectively.

Abergavenny is steeped in ancient history and there is plenty to keep the enthusiast interested, but for me the Linda Vista Gardens, with its collection of all sorts of trees, was

fascinating – the London Plane, never heard of it, but my goodness, it is an awesome sight.

Brecon has real character and a military feel, across the years, with links to the Zulu Wars, among many others. The cathedral is truly imposing, both inside and out, and there is a lovely walk which takes you down to the water's edge where the Honddu and Usk rivers meet.

We also managed to take in Tretower Castle and Court, which is a quirky stop-off and again something for the history enthusiast.

We came away from our stay in Brecon Beacons realising that we had only scratched the surface. A comfortable two-hour drive away, with something to offer the visitor across all seasons, one day we will make it to the top of one of those mountains and wonder at the beauty of one of Britain's most unsung national parks. But when it's a bit warmer!

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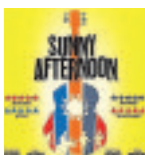
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## Plastering

**C.A. Plastering**

For competitive quotes on all your refurbishment needs on plastering, boarding, overboarding, partitions, re-skimming and artex covering.

No job too small **07538 718264**

**Nick's Plastering Services**

ALL TYPES OF PLASTERING WORK UNDERTAKEN

Advanced City and Guilds Qualified

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Low Prices  
FREE QUOTES

**0121 559 4818**  
**07930 525677**

**CI PLASTERING**

All aspects of Plastering,  
Dry Lining,  
Skimming and Rendering,  
Artex Removed  
Insurance work undertaken

Call for free estimates  
**0121 4213934**  
**07748 644816**

**Local Specialists**

**DH PLASTERERS**

FROM boarding, skimming, patching and repairs TO complete rooms

**GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES**  
**0121 422 8594** or **07955 548466**

To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

**1**

Call us on...  
**01902 319590**

**2**

E-mail us at...  
[mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk)

**3**

Post to...  
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



# Local Specialists



## Gardening

### ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD

\*Tree Surgeon Specialist \*Stump Grinding/Root Removal  
\*Hedges Pruned/Shaped \*Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes  
\*Fencing \*Turfing \*Concreting \*Driveways & Patios  
\*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation  
**www.rowangroup.co.uk**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**

AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified,  
Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

### Roy's Mowing & Garden Maintenance

Now Taking bookings for Spring / Summer

- Garden tidy up's
- Bush/tree's/conifers/hedges cut or removed
- No job too big or small
- Special rates for OAP's
- Gutters Cleaned
- Fencing and Sheds Painted/Creosoted
- Patios Jet Washed

Please call: **0121 422 5818 / 07979 980951**

**LINDOPS LANDSCAPES**  
All Landscape Work Undertaken  
No Job Too Small or Too Big  
**FREE QUOTATIONS**  
All aspects of Tree Surgery,  
Block Paving, Fencing, etc  
Est. 25 Years  
Ex. Botanical Gardener  
**0121-421 2858**  
**07583 - 748872**  
10% OFF valid until 31st MARCH 2016

### R.A. GARDEN SERVICES

Established 24 years  
Gardening & Landscaping Services  
Including: • Tree Lopping • Hedge Cutting  
• Lawn Mowing • Fencing & Slabbing  
• Low Maintenance Landscaping • Gardens Cleared  
**FULLY INSURED • OAP DISCOUNTS**  
**FOR FREE QUOTE CALL:**  
**07970 676 638 • 01384 569 143**  
**www.ragardenservices.net**

### SEDGLEY TREE CARE

Professional Tree Surgeon  
All aspects of tree work undertaken  
• TREE REMOVAL  
• CROWN REDUCTION  
• STUMP GRINDING  
• HEDGE TRIMMING  
• GARDEN CLEARANCES  
ALL WASTE REMOVED  
NPTC QUALIFIED  
**07746813358 or 01902 659 692**  
**FOR A FREE QUOTE**

### Dal's Gardening & Tree Services

- A Good reliable service,
  - A Name you can trust
  - All areas covered
- So don't delay phone today for a **FREE** quotation  
**07407 622855**

### R & S Gardens

- All garden work undertaken
  - Hedges and lawns cut
  - General tidy and rubbish removed
  - Garden landscaping and fencing work
- Telephone: **07851 323303**

## Mobile Hairdresser

### MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Cuts, Colours, Perms etc  
Hair Extensions

Call Lyndsey **07795 514858**

## Roofing

### ALL WEATHER ROOFING

Slating, Tiling, New Roofs, Flat Roofs, Chimneys, Guttering, Ridges, Flashings, uPVC Fascia Cladding  
FREE ESTIMATES • FAST RELIABLE SERVICE  
Over 30 years experience

**0121 420 1582**  
**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**  
Mobile Number: **07947 839451**  
**allweatherroofingwestmids.co.uk**  
**allweatherroofinguk@outlook.com**

### ROOFING SERVICES

- Gutters Cleaned From £15
  - Small Repairs From £15
  - Pointing Work From £15
- SPECIAL OFFERS**  
on all UPVC Fascias, Gutters, New Roofs/Slate Tile & Felt and Garage Roofs  
- Flat roof specialist  
- Insurance work undertaken  
- Est 25 years  
- Discounted for OAPs  
- Exterior Painting

Home: **01384 872276** Mobile: **07584 081228**

### ELITE PLASTICS

• Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge  
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair  
Premium Products Expertly Fitted  
With Full Manufacture Guarantee.  
**For A Free Quote call**  
**01384 468831 / 07985 575865**  
**www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk**

### Services

Fast and friendly service from a family run business, with over 10 years' experience  
**SPECIALISTS IN TILE, SLATE,**  
fibreglass flat roofing, flat felt roofing, uPVC, fascias, soffits and guttering, lead work, pointing and storm damage  
no job too big or too small  
For a free quote call  
**0121 608 3522 or 07841 046 126**  
Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PD

## Plumbing

### HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING

(General Plumbing and Bathrooms)  
All installations and repairs  
Supply and fit or fit only  
TIDY, MODERN APPROACH. REGISTERED PLUMBER  
No job too small. Friendly service. Free advice and quotes  
Tel: Neil **07968 786449** - **0121-602 6776**  
**www.household-plumbing.co.uk**

## Upholstery

### JC RE-UPHOLSTERY SERVICES

Re-upholstery, Repairs and Antiques  
**CONTRACT & DOMESTIC**  
No Job Too Small  
FREE ESTIMATES  
Choice of patterns  
Quality Workmanship  
• Blackheath  
**0121 561 3977** daytime  
or **0121 561 2344** evenings after 6 pm

### Local Specialists

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

## Plumbing & Heating

WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST WORCESTER BOSCH SPECIALIST  
**24/7 Emergencies Call Out**  
**Gastek Solutions**  
Financial - New boilers on new boilers  
WORCESTER accredited installer  
**NEW GASTEK HOME SAFE PLAN**  
• BRONZE - £14.99  
• SILVER - £16.99  
• GOLD - £18.99  
• PLATINUM - £21.99  
• LANDLORD PLATINUM - £24.99  
(All prices are per month-1/c apply)  
• Boiler Services  
• Landlord Checks  
• Full Central Heating Systems  
• Boiler Swaps and Conversions  
• Bathroom Installations  
• Power Flushing  
• Gas Appliance Installations  
• All Domestic Plumbing Work  
• LPG Gas Appliance Service and Installations  
**NEW SHOWROOM NOW OPEN**  
Unit B15 Anchor Business Park, Dudley DY2 9AF  
Office Open 8am-6pm Monday-Friday 8am-4pm Saturday  
Tel: **01384 560856**  
**info@Gasteksolutions.co.uk • www.gasteksolutions.co.uk**

### Gas Heating Services

130 Hagley Road (Shop 6),  
Halesowen B63 1DY

- Central Heating
- Gas Fitting
- Cooker Repairs
- Gas Appliance Servicing
- Boiler Maintenance & Repairs
- Specialists in Combination Boilers
- Landlord Inspections
- Family Run Business

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VISA MasterCard G Safe  
Call us today for fast, friendly advice  
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### KEN PERRY

PLUMBING & HEATING ENGINEER  
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing and Immersion Heaters, Multi Point Water Heaters, Landlord's Gas Certificates, Boilers changed  
Guild of Master Craftsmen Gas Safe Registered  
**STOURBRIDGE 392284**

### Local Specialists



## Driveways

### ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD

Tarmacing • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios  
Landscaping • Turfing • Fencing and Decking  
Power Washing • 5 year guarantee  
FREE estimate • 15 years experience • Fully insured  
**01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419**  
Web: **www.acepaving.co.uk**  
Email: **acepaving@outlook.com**  
Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields,  
Halesowen B63 2QB

## Property Maintenance

### ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD

★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating  
★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Rendering  
★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering  
★ Roof Repairs & Re-pointing ★ Pressure washing  
★ Plus Much More....  
**www.rowangroup.co.uk**  
**01384 213644 or 07733 226568**  
AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED,  
PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED  
**PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES**

**K S SERVICES**  
All types of General Repairs to your home and garden  
Also interior and exterior decorating  
Local Friendly Service  
**0121 532 4861**  
No Job Too Small

**Local Specialists**  
A group of people, including a man in a suit and a woman in a white lab coat, standing together.

## Tiling

### I.C.A. TILING SERVICES

Walls, floors, bathrooms, kitchens and conservatories.  
Ceramic, porcelain, mosaics, slate, marble and all natural stone.  
**FULL BATHROOM INSTALLATION AVAILABLE**  
Quality workmanship at competitive prices.  
Fully insured. Portfolio available.  
For a free quote call Ian on  
**01384 412796 or 07890 894631**

### Floor and Wall Tiling

**Ceramic, Porcelain and Natural Stone**  
Walls • Floors • Bathrooms • Kitchens • Conservatories  
All work undertaken • Call Tony for a free quote  
**0121 422 4116 / 07961 604632**

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### MT SKIPS & GRAB HIRE

**Save £££**  
All size skips and all areas covered  
Same day delivery faster than A phone call!!!  
Open 7 days a week  
**07920 88 57 74 or 01384 24 09 56**  
Scrap cars removed for **FREE**  
**YOU FILL 'EM WE'EM**

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To advertise your business and reach more than 41,000 potential customers...

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Call us on...  
**01902 319590**

**2**

E-mail us at...  
**mark.moore@expressandstar.co.uk**

**3**

Post to...  
Mark Moore, Halesowen Chronicle, Black Lake  
Regional Centre, West Bromwich B70 0QB



**funeral directors**

**N.E.DOWNING**  
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent family run Funeral Directors

24 hour service  
Halesowen  
0121 422 2794

www.nedowning.co.uk

**lost & found**



**MISSING SINCE NOVEMBER 13, 2015**  
Tom, a six year old ginger and white neutered male cat. Microchipped but no collar. Last seen Newbridge Avenue, Wolverhampton.  
Any information as to his whereabouts.  
Please contact:  
Tara on 07957 568140.  
Reward for safe return.

**1 Family**

**baby needs**

**elderly & disabled**

**REAR FACING** car seat BeSafe iZi Combi, ISOFIX, black, 6 months - 4 yrs, no accidents, £35. Was £349.99 new. 07711 503119.

**REAR FACING CARSEAT** BeSafe iZi Combi, ISOFIX, black, 6 months - 4 yrs, no accidents, £125. Was £349.99 new. 07711 503119.

**jewellery & watches**

**WANTED OLD GENTS WRIST WATCHES**  
All makes and models. Working or broken.  
Telephone 07979 020256.

**2 Leisure Time**

**caravans / motorhomes**

**Easter Caravan Breaks**  
from £180 p/w  
Seasonal touring pitches  
from £375 p/w  
including 2016 site fees

**Barbers Leisure**  
Caravans for sale  
from £9,995  
including 2016 site fees

www.barbersleisure.com 01970 810772

**BAILEY PAGEANT MOSELLE**  
2004, L-shaped diner, 4-berth, motor mover, CRIS Reg., full awning, lovely condition.  
£5,500.  
07962 179883/01902 684602 call after 6pm.

**BAILEY PEGASUS BOLOGNA**  
2011. Fixed bed. Full awning. CRIS Regd. Lots of accessories.  
£14,500.  
01562 910537 / 07771 848200.

**ELDDIS FOUR BERTH** Wisp 400 Supreme Caravan, £750. 07889 071146.

**TWO BERTH CARAVAN FOR SALE**, £500, o.n.o. With extras. Ready to go. Telephone 07769 652754.

**caravans wanted**

**WANTED ALL CARAVANS**  
Any age or condition  
Also motorhomes wanted.  
**TOP PRICES PAID**  
Immediate collection.  
**CALL THOMAS 07776373150**

**fishing**

**FISHING TACKLE WANTED** anything considered. New or Old 01902 754011 or 07931 568716

**jumble sales / fetes**

**BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR**  
Sunday 13th March

**KINVER COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
D17 6EE  
10.30am - 4pm  
Tel: 01384 894464

**sports & leisure**

**Free Ads**

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**  
For items upto £250.  
Online at [bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)

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**self catering holidays**

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Self Catering Holiday Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly  
**01278 794111**  
[www.GoSomerset.co.uk](http://www.GoSomerset.co.uk)

**what's on**

**antique fairs**

**ANTIQUE/ COLLECTORS FAIR**  
CORNHALL, HAGLEY STREET, HALESOWEN, B63 3AT (NEXT TO WILKOS).  
**FRIDAY 18TH MARCH**  
8.00AM - 4PM  
07712 597468  
[www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk](http://www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk)

**items wanted**

**All gold 9ct up to £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Monocraft • Lladro • Old Coins  
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY • Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings  
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items  
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc  
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING  
HOUSE CLEARANCES  
**01922 495066 or 07971 783206**

**ANTIQUE COLLECTORS & VINTAGE FAIR**  
**UTTOXETER RACECOURSE**

(SAT NAV ST14 8BD)  
VIA STAFFORD RD/A449 & B5013

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 12TH & 13TH MARCH**  
**100 + STALLS INSIDE + OUTSIDE PITCHES**  
**10AM - 4PM ADM.£1.50 CHILDREN FREE**

**PLENTY OF FREE PARKING**  
ANTIQUE FORUM  
01782 393660 / 07921659798

**3 Home & Services**

**A BEST CASH PRICE**  
FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans / Roundhouse / Graham / Farish / any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
01384 836219/07891 713547.  
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com

**furniture**

**ARMCHAIRS** electric, 1 rise recliner £295 plus matching armchair, £150. Top quality, as new, will separate, delivery. 01902 341611.

**BUNK BEDS** Pink, inc mattresses, 2 wooden drawers underneath must collect. Immaculate. £150 ono. 01902 338505 / 0785 2242409.

**COUSINS FLORENCE** grade one leather 2 x 2 seater settees and one chair, chocolate brown, as new. £800. 07594 667849.

**DINING TABLE**  
Wooden, cream, extendable, with 6 chairs, good condition £150.

**CREAM UNIT**  
Matches dining table above.

**LIGHT OAK UNIT**  
Freestanding large unit, with 2 matching tables, as new. £200.

Telephone 07970 064174.

**3 Piece Suite**  
PARKER KNOLL REGENCY SUITE  
Two x 2 seater settees and one armchair.  
Beige patterned fabric.  
Excellent condition, used by couple only.  
£500 ono.  
01384 359463

**in your garden**

**LAWN TRACTOR**  
22hp, 42 inch cut with collector, totally new and unused, cost £3,500, will accept, £1,850. Can deliver.  
07710 169150.

**MCCULLOCH TRIMMAC 210**, light-weight petrol trimmer, two stroke, offers around £35. 01889 271062.

**items for sale**

**HAVE YOU CHECKED** your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

**PROFESSIONAL CRAFTEX GRACE** Carpet removal package, used only, £1,000 ono. 01384 352411 / 07840 244730.

**specialists at your service**

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
AERIALS FITTED FROM £75  
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE  
Work Guaranteed  
01902 858191  
01384 429166  
01543 433095  
01922 716029  
07833 738857

**items wanted**

**ALL gold 9ct up to £300 per ounce CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Monocraft • Lladro • Old Coins  
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY • Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings  
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items  
Pre-47 silver coins All war medals etc  
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING  
HOUSE CLEARANCES  
**01922 495066 or 07971 783206**

**alarms/security**

**PREMIER ALARMS**  
Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
**Call: 0121 601 9791**

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**A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices. Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
**Call Paul 07870 341089**

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**DIAMOND DRIVES LTD**  
Block Paving - Patios - Graveling - Tarmacadam - Tar & Chip - Landscaping  
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[www.diamonddrivesltd.co.uk](http://www.diamonddrivesltd.co.uk)

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**PORTWAY FENCING**  
SPECIAL OFFER  
10 bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£695**  
Heavy duty panels supplied and fitted.  
6x6 H/D Treated panels **£15.95**  
6x5 Feather edge panels **£18.95**  
8 foot concrete posts **£8.95**  
12 inch x 6 foot gravel boards **£7.95**  
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656  
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 8am - 12noon  
83 Portway Rd, Wbury  
**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**  
[www.portwayfencing.com](http://www.portwayfencing.com)

**gardening services**

**GARDENS TIDIED** from £5 per garden, 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

**gas fitting**

**home improvements**

**Brickwork Maintenance**  
Boundary Walls - Part Rebuilds, Individual Brick Replacement, Pointing, etc. CRB, Free Quotes, City and Guilds, Insured.  
**Lee**  
0789 147 5718 or 0121 602 5313  
[www.beddington-march.com](http://www.beddington-march.com)

**house clearances**

**A ABSOLUTE BEST CASH PRICE PAID**  
for house clearances and removals.  
Also removals undertaken.  
All rubbish removed  
Carriers licence held  
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

**removals**

**C.C. PAINTING & DECORATING**  
best quotes around. OAPs 20% off. 07874 814922 / 01902 632851.

**MTK PAINTER & DECORATOR**  
Competitive quotes OAP discounts  
01384 340930 / 07825 558940.

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209 / 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**Stourbridge Removals**

**20+ YEARS EXP**  
Home, Office, Part loads, landlord clean & repair service.  
House clearances.  
Quality service guaranteed lowest rates  
Call John - 07802 876 876  
office - 01562 640 640

**roofing**

**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

**skip hire**

**BLITZ SKIPS**  
AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE  
PUNJABI SPEAKERS  
MONDAY-SATURDAY 7AM-6PM  
**01902 870370 0121 517 1111**

**4 Pets & Animals**

**GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD.**  
Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

**guns & dogs**

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

**pets corner**

**A SPECIAL HOME WANTED**  
HI MY NAME IS ROLO  
I am three and half years old I am a Jack Russell cross tan and black.  
I like to have my own way but I don't always get it. I love going for walks and I will sit when asked.  
I like other dogs but I don't like cats.  
I am wary of people but when I get to know you I will sit on your lap all day and be your best friend.  
Love playing with my toys and fetching my ball.  
**01588 630134.**

**painters / decorators**

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

**So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.**

**SOS APPEAL AND UPDATE AND A HUGE THANK YOU. "BORDER COLLIE"**  
slowly getting stronger putting weight on and progressing with gentle exercise.  
**"STAFFIE X DACHSHUND"**  
Infection in stomach and growth removed including tumour and hernia  
**"PUG"**  
9 teeth removed as mouth was infected, large growth removed from face with 14 stitches, is now able to walk again after the removal of faeces and dirt which was engorged in paws.  
**"BICHON"**  
With infected eyes sadly lost his sight and is having continuous specialist eye treatment, drops etc and is being helped, matted coat now removed and he is much more comfortable.

This is all makes for grim reading but thanks to the support of so many people who kindly and generously donated and the dedicated foster homes and carers (all unpaid) the worst of their ordeals are now over. The rescue will continue to fund the medical requirements until the rehabilitation is complete and new loving homes are found.  
**01588 676106**  
[www.dogsamaritans.org.uk](http://www.dogsamaritans.org.uk)

**CHIHUAHUA GIRLS PUPPY** 22 weeks old, light fawn and white. Mom and Dad can be seen. £475. 01902 651019.

**RAGDOLL KITTENS**  
Companion breed, permanent homes only, vaccinated, microchipped and house trained and wormed.  
£400 and £250.  
07436 002565.

**SPECIAL HOMES WANTED**  
**MOSS** young Collie X good with Cats, Children, other dogs  
**ROY** red/white sheep dog, friendly gently a little shy  
**TARKA** honey coloured Lakeland cross ten years young  
**VIGGY** 12yr young patterdale cross  
**JESSIE** 5yr old collie girl, tri coloured  
**CHARLIE** 3yr old border collie x old english sheep dog, foveas, cuddles, kids and dogs  
**LAURA** 5yr old pretty tri colour border collie  
**FLOSS** 1yr old tri colour border collie (Laura's puppy).  
**01588 676106**  
[www.dogsamaritans.org.uk](http://www.dogsamaritans.org.uk)

**houses for sale**

**WOLVERHAMPTON**

Two bedrooms, large garden, chain free.

**Express & Star**

**THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS**

**Any Property Wanted**

**100% Price Promise**  
✓ Genuine cash buyers  
✓ Any Circumstances  
✓ Any Condition  
✓ Legal fees paid by us  
✓ Completely confidential  
✓ Completion to suit you  
✓ Probate Specialists  
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[www.anypropertywanted.co.uk](http://www.anypropertywanted.co.uk)

**Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.**

**equestrian corner**

**ALL READERS** are advised to check if horses have the required Passport information.

**5 Business & Farming**

**business opportunities**

**READERS** are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

**businesses for sale**

**HAIRDRESSING BUSINESS** For sale, Willenhall Town Centre established 12 years, £5,000 genuine reason for sale. 07967 360331.

**6 Property**

**accommodation to let**

**A TWO BED FLAT** off Tettenhall Rd, CH, DG. Off road parking. £115.50 pw 01902 340073 / 07770 660636.

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house. Netherton, from £85 pwk Single, £95 pwk DBL inc bills. No DSS. 07870 717139.

**THREE BED** detached house with garage, Wednesfield, near New Cross. £500pcm. 07828 715552

**TIPTON** 1 bed Flat also Bedsits available. DSS may be considered. 07572 144637 or 07961 301577.

**houses for sale**

**WOLVERHAMPTON**

Two bedrooms, large garden, chain free.

**properties wanted**

**£126,000 for quick sale.**

**07453 489002.**

**Any Property Wanted**

**100% Price Promise**  
✓ Genuine cash buyers  
✓ Any Circumstances  
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TOYOTA RAV4 3dr, 54 reg, black with grey interior, service history, £2,795. 01562 710289.

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FORD FIESTA 2005 11 months MoT, blue, excellent condition inside and out. £795. 07498 131071.

FORD FOCUS LX W reg, 1.8, petrol, black, 5 door, tinted windows, four months MoT, good runner. £300. 07552 343585.

FORD KA STYLE 2006, 18,400 miles, silver, abs, electric windows, MoT history, central locking, one owner, stereo, very low mileage, new tyres, absolute bargain. £1,150. 01902 341382.

MAZDA TRIBUTE 54 V6, spares and repairs, good engine, gear box and body, poor interior. £250 ono. 07816 821960. Worth looking at.

MERCEDES C200 Kompressor Elegance, 2001, auto, Estate, dark blue, MoT Oct 2, 2016, service history, £1,300. 07850 037162.

PEUGEOT 206CC electric Convertible, 53 reg, MoT April, alloy, AC, leather, EW, £750 ono. 07879 693569.

PEUGEOT 206LX Silver, 5-doors, Lady owner, MoT July 5550, 01902 332851.

RENAULT CLIO 1.2, 16 valve Dynamique, 03 reg, 56,000 miles, needs attention. £580 ono. 01902 338647.

ROVER 25 IMPRESSION S 1.4 2003, 5 door, hatchback, 34,000 miles, fsh, dark blue. £895 ono. Telephone 01902 835517.

ROVER 75 1.8 T Club SE, 53 reg, 74,000 miles, MoT Feb 17, good condition. £1,095 ono. 01902 335885.

SAAB 93 convertible, 2.0, silver, CD, alarm, CL, 60,000 miles, 7 months MoT, £500. 0710 400218.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 2001, silver, RCL, CD, clean condition, MoT, £325 ono. 07813 932880.

VAUXHALL ASTRA California, 1994, 59,000 genuine miles, 7 months MoT, good runner, £180 ono. 07811 878705.

VAUXHALL ASTRA Life, Auto, 05 plate, 1.8cc, petrol, red, very good condition, drives nice. Mot, £1,195 ono. 07958 045594.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 54 reg, 3-dr, blue, 22,000 miles, MoT'd, good condition. £995. 07866 030218.

VW PASSAT S 20V Saloon, silver, 52 reg, petrol, MoT June 30, 2016, £950. 07973 505851.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

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ALAN SUTTON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 38 Cavendish Road Halesowen West Midlands B65 0QE, who died on 21/11/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 11/05/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

MESSRS BRIDGE McFARLAND 19 South St Marys Gate Grimsby North East Lincolnshire DN31 1JE

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL The Borough Council of Sandwell (Malvern Road, Oldbury) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2016, intends to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Malvern Road, Oldbury from the junction with Queensway to Frankley Road. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 08/04/16, effective from 21/03/16. Traffic will be diverted via Malvern Road, Worcester Road, Queensway and vice-versa. Purpose – facilitate works to gas main. The Borough Council of Sandwell (Woods Lane, Cradley Heath Level Crossing) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2016, intends to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Woods Lane, Cradley Heath. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 27/03/16 (9.30hrs), effective from 19/03/16 (23.30hrs). Traffic will be diverted via Cradley Road, Chester Road and vice-versa. Purpose – maintenance work to the railway line by Network Rail.

DAVID TURBERFIELD (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 35B Beecher Street Halesowen West Midlands B63 2DP, who died on 15/06/2009, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 20/05/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

FREETHS LLP 80 Mount Street Nottingham NG1 6HH

JOSEPHINE ELIZABETH BOLLAND (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Flat 71 Lancaster House Oldbury Road Powley Regis West Midlands B65 0QE, who died on 07/02/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 13/05/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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WIDOWER Own house and car, loves music and dancing, looking for the right lady to spend my life with, got a lot of love to give to that lady. Box Number P20252, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

YOUNG AT HEART MAN, 60s Seeks meaningful relationship. I am fit, slim, practical, peaceful, intelligent and considerate. She will be 40-70, positive, slim, non smoker, down to earth, single, divorced or widowed and not emotionally involved and may be from the West Midlands, Shropshire, Powys or South Cheshire. Box Number P20262, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

general

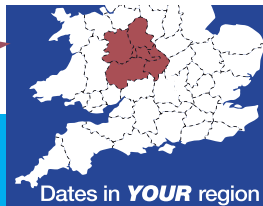
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**JAYNE**, 42, very pretty brunette, stylish, fun, loves the 60's, fine wine/restaurants, seeks professional gent for mutual life enhancement. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421311**KATIE** 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with gent 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3002 Box 419673**JO** attractive 30's brunette who loves life, WLTm up for it male to enjoy nights in/out, weekends away, fun times and hopefully more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421259**SUE**, 38yrs, passionate, broadminded and feisty seeks discreet fun with Mr Wrong! Tel: 0906 515 3034 Box 413007**MONICA** 35, very attractive, gorgeous curly figure, WLTm nice male who wants to get to know a genuine black beauty to wine, dine, romance hopefully leading to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421241**JANE**, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3010 Box: 409715**46YR** old Asian lady looking for friendship maybe more with white male 50+ Text only to Mailbox: 5044665**LUCY** first time advertiser, 32yrs, tall slim blonde airline worker, seeks discreet gent, any status for casual fling. Looks/age unimportant. Tel: 0906 515 3026 Box: 420237**TRISH**, 45, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC. WLTm male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421137**SOPHIA** young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3018 Box: 413399**LOUISE** 35, loves meals out, WLTm tallish, considerate mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421135**KAREN**, 42yrs, attractive and broadminded, seeks no strings fun with chap any age, must be discreet. Tel: 0906 515 3038 Box: 407953**ANGELA**, 42, green eyed dark haired feminine lady who enjoys walking and keeping fit, seeking lonely kind gentleman for good times and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421115**I'M** Chloe, 33yrs old, sensual blonde lady with fabulous figure, workaholic, seeking new circle of men for casual fun. Looks/age/status unimportant must be fun and openminded. Tel: 0906 515 3042 Box 420261**MARGARET** 39, dark hair/eyed attractive petite divorcee, new to area and looking to start a new life, WLTm child friendly male, single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421129**ROSIE**, 43yrs, bored and lonely, I don't get out much but would like to meet a nice chap, married or single, fun only pls. Text only Box 407825**ANNA**, 41, new to single life seeking caring professional male for no strings fun, attention and laughter. Life is too short, lets enjoy it! Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421127**JENNI**, hairdresser, brunette, caring and fun. WLTm chap any age, must be discreet with car, I have a nice home to meet in. Text only Box: 4139156**HONEST** sincere attractive female, 48, OHAC, WLTm child friendly male/single dad for dates, chats, laughter and more. Any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421111**KAREN**, curly brunette, 42yrs loves men of all ages and sizes but must make me laugh. I am married with open marriage. Text only Box: 420257**LOU**, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTm a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes; must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419855

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**SUSANNAH**, 48, curly female, romantic, warm and cuddly, seeks similar kind male for a loving relationship with lots of cuddles and kisses. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417341**MICHELLE** 39yr old nurse, slim, petite, blonde, blue eyes, looking to enjoy life with similar romantic, caring guy. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420791**DEBS** lonely 40's female with no ties, GSOH, N/S. loves the simple things in life looking for similar soul mate to be happy together with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420729**JULIE**, 47, blonde brown eyes, size 12, varied interests, loves cuddling, kissing and showing affection, seeks similar energetic male friend for TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420357**JANE**, 47, voluptuous female, long hair, brown/eyes, generous curves, would love to spend cozy nights in with that special male. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417985**SAMANTHA** pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a real lust for life, seeks big-hearted stocky male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420599**YVONNE**, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420269

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**48** year old, slim, green eyed female, n/s, likes meals out, local theatre, live local bands, nights in, looking for a gentleman, 48-52, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420839**FEMALE**, 37, new to area, would like to meet nice trustworthy man, for friendship hopefully more. Text only to mailbox: 5392585**CAROL** 37 attractive slim blonde, curves in all the right places, nice personality, good company, looking for caring man for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420839**BEV** 50yr old curvy attractive female, likes music, travel, animals, cozy nights in front of a log fire, looking for affectionate male for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420715**SUE**, 46, confident professional, sporty/active, seeking sensitive interesting guy for intimate evenings in with great food and conversations. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420701**CAROLINE**, 42yrs, slim attractive blonde, varied interests and solvent, WLTm honest male of any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420685**CHRIS**, 67, brunette, cuddly, WLTm caring, kind gentleman, for days out, meals out, walks etc and for just being together. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420667**LILY**, genuine lady looking for a genuine man. I like cozy nights in and am a smoker. Text only mailbox no: 5372466**TRISH**, 44, tall slim young/good looking GSOH, professional, solvent, OHAC, affectionate and loves TLC, WLTm male who also likes to be in a loving relationship, 39-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420601**MADDIE** extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420563**CHRIS**, 40, attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420491**SALLY**, 46, slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTm similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420475**39** yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796**WIDOW** 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415767**FRANCES**, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420003**FEMALE**, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curvy brunette. Discretion guaranteed. Text only to Mailbox no: 5709311**MARY**, pretty, friendly, 50yrs of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTm a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419883**FREYA** 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419851**LISA** 38 slim attractive blonde, looking for a man who will appreciate a feminine, fashionable, fun, romantic sensual woman with a mind of her own. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419839**SARAH** 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419821**PAT** 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418277**68YR** old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**JULIA** 47, looking for genuine, reasonably attractive male friend, may be lead to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419895**LADY** Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237**BLACK** lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a love. Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384**CHARLENE**, 24, petite curvy young blonde seeks similar cheeky fun loving guy for lots of fun and loving. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419597**JOANNA**, 36, petite, Auburn haired female, lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun nights out and cozy nights in. Maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419595**SHARON** 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and passionate, WLTm male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419579**MARIE**, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419417**LADY** young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man 42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only to Mailbox No: 4881572**CATHY**, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420175**TARA** 22 tall slim but curvy with legs that go all the way up to heaven, WLTm very appreciative confident male for adult fun. Contact me anytime. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414701**FEMALE**, dark haired 5'10, curvy, likes reading, walking, cinema, seeks male 40-50 for lasting relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5077545**PROFESSIONAL** black female age 52, enjoys evenings and days out, would like to meet similar Midlands male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5315901**CATHY**, 42, good looking brunette with a real passion for life, seeking male for happy times, dates, chats, romance and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420073**FEMALE** fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**MAGGIE**, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTm kind, sincere, chappie to share coffee and a chat. Text only to Mailbox no: 5310040**LOUISE** 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420043**WAYNE**, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419829**DARREN**, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809**NEIL** 52, solvent, average build, GSOH seeks a caring romantic female for fun nights in and out, and lots of cuddles & kisses. Text only Mailbox: 5418572**YOUNG** at heart male, smart, looks younger than age, likes socialising, looking for companionship & friendship. Text only Mailbox: 5412069**SHROPSHIRE** trucker, 54, WLTm female, 40-65, black or white, for friendship, fun and hopefully more x Text only Mailbox: 5411957**DOMINANT** Goddess sought by tall slim compliant white male, 50, who WLTm an elegant, sensual, high heeled lady, any age/race. Text only Mailbox: 4673363**MALE**, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421089**SMOKIN'** rock geezer, 53, into giggling & camping WLTm rock chick 46-58ish, into similar, to share experiences, GSOH essential! Text only Mailbox: 5414037**ADVENTUROUS** 35yr old male, slim, dark hair, likes music, bike rides and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**50ISH** male, seeking lady 60-75 for daytime fun, must be discreet. Text only Mailbox: 4624030**GRAHAM**, 50s, 5ft10, blue eyes, very smart, OHAC, solvent, smooth, WLTm a very feminine, sensual, high heels lady, 36-52, for romantic evenings out and holidays. South Cheshire, Stasia. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421103**CARING** male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**MALE** 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**GENUINE** male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417601**PHIL** 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991**MALE** 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709To **Reply** to members call:**0906 500 3955**

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**WAYNE**, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 419829**DARREN**, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418809**NEIL** 52, solvent, average build, GSOH seeks a caring romantic female for fun nights in and out, and lots of cuddles & kisses. Text only Mailbox: 5418572**YOUNG** at heart male, smart, looks younger than age, likes socialising, looking for companionship & friendship. Text only Mailbox: 5412069**SHROPSHIRE** trucker, 54, WLTm female, 40-65, black or white, for friendship, fun and hopefully more x Text only Mailbox: 5411957**DOMINANT** Goddess sought by tall slim compliant white male, 50, who WLTm an elegant, sensual, high heeled lady, any age/race. Text only Mailbox: 4673363**MALE**, 59, 5ft2, average build, looking for a genuine, caring lady, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421089**SMOKIN'** rock geezer, 53, into giggling & camping WLTm rock chick 46-58ish, into similar, to share experiences, GSOH essential! Text only Mailbox: 5414037**ADVENTUROUS** 35yr old male, slim, dark hair, likes music, bike rides and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**50ISH** male, seeking lady 60-75 for daytime fun, must be discreet. Text only Mailbox: 4624030**GRAHAM**, 50s, 5ft10, blue eyes, very smart, OHAC, solvent, smooth, WLTm a very feminine, sensual, high heels lady, 36-52, for romantic evenings out and holidays. South Cheshire, Stasia. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421103**CARING** male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**MALE** 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**GENUINE** male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417601**PHIL** 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414991**MALE** 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 418709**HANDSOME**, attractive, fit, Indian, professional trucker, 38, WLTm attractive, honest, caring lady/mum, 31-45 for LTR. Colour unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 219790**ATTRACTIVE** male 56 seeks dom female 40 to 70 for close adult fun, any status or size. Text only to mailbox: 434701**MATURE** male, 6ft, slim, fit, clean and smart, residing in central Birmingham, seeks slimsish female for fun times. Text only to mailbox: 5383053**MAN** 55yrs, 6ft med build, single, looking for a special lady to share no strings fun and good times Age/status unimportant. Text only to mailbox: 5381487**KALU** 26 years old single dark/black good looking man looking for a good-looking woman for sexy fun. Text only to mailbox: 538353ATTRACTIVE British Indian male, 38, seeks slim, attractive, caring female for friendship, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 227154**ASIAN** male, 38, good looking, fit, loving, caring, GSOH, WLTm Asian female, 40-55 for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 225363**SEXY** Indian male, 40, dark hair/eyes, fit, seeks fit, sporty, sexy, romantic female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 301791**HANDSOME** Indian male, 41, tactile, romantic, likes meals out, days out, walks, nights in, seeks sensitive, intelligent Indian female, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 322561**FIT**, handsome, Indian male, 40, GSOH, seeks Asian lady, 33-43 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 365160**ATTRACTIVE** professional, Asian male, 43, kind, caring, likes travel, romance, dining, seeks attractive lady, 35-50 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 370823**MARK** 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 348239**SLIM** attractive man WLTm caring lady, 40-58, for friendship, reply and claim free hug. Text only mailbox no: 4172082

## Gay Singles

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**BI-CURIOS** 45 years old, slim and good looking, looking for younger bisexual guy for discreet fun. Text only to Mailbox: 4917435**57YR** old male, slim, fit, seeks guy, 30-45 for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309951**BLACK** male seeking black male aged 25 to 30, for discreet adult fun, maybe more. Text only to Mailbox: 5409036**SLIM** late 50's male, seeks gay/bi/CD, slim-medium build, 25-42 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 336329**I** am looking for discreet fun with a male, age doesn't matter, get in touch if you are interested. Text only to mailbox: 4172337**Bi** curious male, slim, fit, looking for weekdays fun, looking for someone to show me the ropes, 45 to 65. Text only mailbox no: 5378837**DIVORCED** male, young 50, own home/business, seeking Asian or East European male 18-25, I'm a generous guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 420537

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# Style, design, technology

**The most spacious and versatile vehicle in the SEAT line-up celebrates its anniversary with a special edition.**

The first-generation SEAT Alhambra was presented 20 years ago – and quickly developed to become a successful model for family, hobbies and leisure, as well as for business and fleet customers.

Nowadays, the dynamic MPV for active people counts among its strengths maximum variability, state-of-the-art technologies and assistance systems, powerful and efficient drives and universal connectivity. Added to that – in true SEAT fashion – is exceptionally high quality and perfection combined with excellent value-for-money.

The new SEAT Alhambra 20th anniversary special edition unites unique design features with an extensive package of technologies. The edition is immediately

recognisable by its 17-inch alloy wheels in high-gloss black, which are complemented perfectly by the xenon headlamps, the tinted side and rear windows and the large panorama glass sliding roof. The interior is defined by distinctive, dark Alcantara upholstery with stitching in light corn silk. Those seated in the first row of the Alhambra 20th anniversary edition benefit from sports seats with massage function.

The technology package is equally extensive. Keyless entry opens the door to one of the most innovative vehicles in this segment – and even the tailgate can be operated hands-free by foot gesture. Like the tailgate, the two sliding doors also open and close electrically.

The comprehensive package of safety and assistance systems includes the Lane Assist lane-departure warning system, Blind Spot Detection, traffic sign recognition and the light assistant. Likewise on board is the SEAT navigation system with the optional



**Maximum variability, state-of-the-art technology and assistance systems, powerful and efficient drives and universal connectivity**

Full Link smartphone connection for perfect connectivity.

SEAT is the only company that designs, develops, manufactures and markets cars in Spain. A member of the Volkswagen Group, the multinational has its headquarters in Barcelona, exporting more than 80 per cent of its vehicles, and is present in over 75 countries. In 2015 SEAT achieved worldwide sales of 400,000 units, the highest figure since 2007.

SEAT Group employs more than 14,000 at its three production centres – Barcelona, El Prat de Llobregat and Martorell, where

it manufactures the successful Ibiza and Leon. Additionally, the company produces the Alhambra in Portugal, the Mii in Slovakia and the Toledo in the Czech Republic.

The multinational has a technical centre, which operates as a knowledge hub that brings together 1,000 engineers who are the driving force behind innovation for Spain's largest industrial investor in R&D. In line with its declared commitment to environmental protection, SEAT undertakes and bases its activity on sustainability, namely the reduction of CO2 emissions and energy efficiency.



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VAUXHALL



# Ibiza can prove to be a bit of a bargain

By Ian Donaldson

**CLOSE your eyes and you could be driving a Volkswagen or an Audi ... or a Skoda, come to that.**

There's the same slick precision about the way everything works; the result of sinking billions of euros in development costs in budgets decided long before the VW Group's recent woes raised their expensive heads.

Now open your eyes (best do it soon if the car is moving) and you'll discover the badge reads SEAT, from the Spanish outpost of the world's biggest – or second biggest – car maker.

That means it's supposed to slip into a VW Group portfolio where Audi equals posh, Volkswagen is solidly middle class, Skoda is all about value (not cheap prices any more) and SEAT has a touch of Latin zing.

Take the car tested here. It's the latest and mildly modified version of the popular Ibiza, uniquely offered in cars of this size as a three-door hatch (the SC), a more practical five-door or the ST, for Sports Tourer, or what you and I call an estate.

Prices start at precisely £10,000 and adding a couple of doors costs £450 but the boot space stays the same. Opt for the estate and it's a slightly longer car with a much bigger load area and a price hike of £1,150 over the three-door Ibiza.

The refreshed range looks much the same as before, with only LED driving lights on dearer models and a new choice of colours and alloy wheels to give the game away. Inside, there's a new steering wheel and new look dials and trim.

## Looker

So, not much to talk about there, but the Ibiza always was a bit of a looker in a class where stodgy rules more strongly than smart.

Rather more happens in the bits that matter most, from new steering to refreshed range of eight engines, starting with a 75 horsepower three-cylinder petrol unit and topping out with 192 when the new 146mph Cupra version arrives.

No price for that yet, but the 1.2 litre CONNECT model on test costs £14,170 as a three-door SC. Diesels (with only a single 1.4 litre on offer in a class that is wildly tilted towards petrol) cost from £16,885 and come with a company tax efficient 95g/km rating and theoretical 78.5mpg average consumption.

SEAT is pushing the connectivity of this latest Ibiza, meaning that if you choose the right model, or add an upgrade, you can turn your car into a version of your smartphone. Indeed, go for a CONNECT trim level and there's a Samsung Galaxy A3 mobile phone as part of the package.

The car will talk to Android or Apple operating systems, letting you talk to the world with safety and ease, or listen to your favourite music. It will, with a new SEAT CONNECT App, let you monitor your heartbeat, but best not check moments after that idiot pulled out in front of you without looking.

The CONNECT version of this Ibiza revamp looks like the sweet spot of the range and comes pretty well loaded with kit. As well as the cleverness outlined above there is satellite navigation, DAB radio and a six speaker sound system with Bluetooth.

A pair of 1.0 litre petrol engines are available, one with a turbo and more power. Next up is the four-cylinder 1.2 litre of the car you see here, with more than useful performance on a mix of country roads, where the 43mpg shown at journey's end seemed about par for the course.

And with every inch covered this latest, mildly tweaked Ibiza displayed the crispness in response from steering, clutch, gearchange and brakes that mark it out as a member of the VW Group family.

Which makes it a bit of a bargain if you choose carefully.

## TESTED

**SEAT Ibiza SC CONNECT 1.2 TSI 90PS**

**Price:** £14,170

**Drivetrain:** 1.2 litre 89bhp petrol engine, 5-speed gearbox

**Performance:** Top speed 114mph, 0-62mph 10.7 seconds

**Economy:** Euro average 56.7mpg CO2 116g/km road tax £0 first year, then £30

**Safety:** EuroNCAP 5 stars

**Insurance:** 13

**Warranty:** Three years or 60,000 miles



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Diesel version also available – ask for details



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- 2 x USB/HDMI connection
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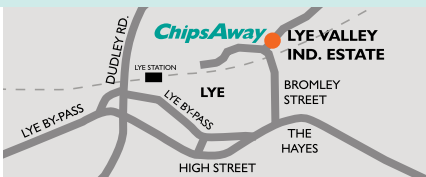
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## DRIVETIME



## Ford takes honours at awards

Ford models have won UK Car of the Year Awards for the third year in succession. The all-new right-hand drive Ford Mustang took Coupé of the Year, winning over the judges with its performance, value for money and fun factor.

UK Car of the Year honours are decided by a panel of 27 British motoring journalists, including contributors to national newspapers, consumer and industry magazines, websites and TV.

Tim Pollard, of CAR magazine, praised Ford Mustang's "exceptional value, amazing bangs for your buck and sheer drama of the thing". John Challen, UK Car of the Year Awards director, highlighted Ford Mustang for its "outstanding performance and value

for money. Just the name is enough to stir even the most conservative petrol-heads."

Ford Mustang owners can choose between 317PS of EcoBoost power or 416PS of V8 muscle, with prices starting from £30,495.

The style and practicality of the latest Ford S-MAX helped secure Multi-Purpose Vehicle of the Year Award for the acclaimed Ford model. "The original S-MAX tore up the people-carrier rule-book, and now its replacement moves the game on again. Seven-seat practicality meets renowned Ford dynamics – it's a combination that continues to defy the odds," said John Challen.

Top Gear magazine's Tom Ford reckons: "The S-MAX is an MPV that doesn't drive like one. And yet it takes

seven people with ease. Plus it comes loaded with all the best convenience options. As an all-rounder for families, it's hard to beat."

Ford models have featured in the UK Car of the Year Awards since they were launched in 2014. Ford S-MAX and Ford Mustang's 2016 success follow previous accolades for the Ford Fiesta ST and Ford Mondeo.

Commenting on the wins, Ford of Britain chairman and managing director Andy Barratt, said: "We are bringing a desired taste of the US to the UK with Ford Mustang and S-MAX blends cutting-edge design with seven-seat accommodation. We're proud that the judges have recognised the strengths of both cars in this year's UK Car of the Year Awards."

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Official fuel consumption figures for the Suzuki SX4 S-Cross range in mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km): Urban 39.7-61.4 (7.1-4.6), extra urban 55.3-74.3 (5.1-3.8), combined 47.8-68.9 (5.9-4.1), CO2 emissions 135-108 g/km.

Fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. The aforementioned dealer can introduce you to Suzuki Finance and a number of other lenders to provide funding for your vehicle. The aforementioned dealer may receive commission or other benefits for introducing you to such lenders. Suzuki deposit contribution of £2000 only available on Suzuki Personal Contract Purchase. Maximum 49 month term. Terms and Conditions apply. Offer available on registrations of Suzuki SX4 S-Cross 1.6 petrol and DDIS ALLGRIP models between 1st January 2016 to 31st March 2016, subject to availability. The offer above is available from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. The offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer unless otherwise stated. Credit is provided, subject to status by Suzuki Financial Services Ltd. Applicants must be 18 years or over and UK resident (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Suzuki Financial Services Ltd reserves the right to withdraw or amend this offer without notice or prior warning. Suzuki Financial Services Ltd, part of Lloyds Banking Group, St William House, Tresillian Terrace, Cardiff, CF10 5BH. \*Offer available on any new SX4 S-Cross vehicle ordered from existing Suzuki stock and registered between 1st March 2016 to 31st March 2016. Offer available to private customers aged 18+. Free fuel offer is provided using a VISA Prepaid card to the value of £500. No cash alternative. Full terms and conditions can be found at [suzuki.co.uk/cars/fuelfree](http://suzuki.co.uk/cars/fuelfree)







Signing on under the eye of chairman John Ireland



I still cannot believe that my hero Mike Bailey asked me to help with this book. I saw every one of Mike's home games for Wolves and a number of his away ones too. At first I was in awe of one of my boyhood heroes, the greatest captain of my beloved Wolverhampton Wanderers that I saw in action. But in the many meetings that I have had with Mike and his wife Barbara I have always been made to feel very welcome and completely at ease. Mike was a true great to me but he is quite simply a lovely bloke who still doesn't fully appreciate how highly he is regarded by fans of all of his former clubs. Supporting Mike with this book has been a learning experience for me, finding out about his times at Charlton, Brighton and elsewhere, as well as the inside stories of his career at Molineux. However, it has been a privilege and a hugely enjoyable journey. Thanks for having me along Mike, you are a top man.

Clive has written two books on Wolverhampton Wanderers: Those were the days (1964-1977) and Out of Darkness (1977-1990).

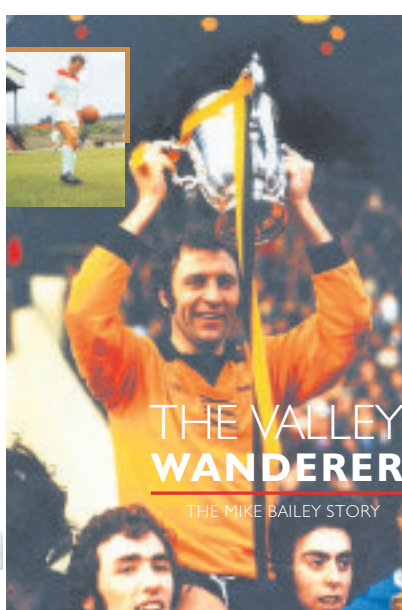


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Mike Bailey is a true son of Norfolk who turned his boyhood passion for football into an illustrious career spanning four decades. He started out at Charlton Athletic and made his first team debut in 1960. He quickly won the hearts of fans as an energetic and tough tackling midfield dynamo, and was very soon made their skipper. In 1964 Mike became the Valiants' first full England international for eleven years. A few months before England's '66 World Cup triumph Mike signed for Wolverhampton Wanderers and in his first full season at Molineux led them back to the First Division. He was the talismanic leader who guided the swashbuckling Wolves team of the seventies to the best top flight finish to date, a first major trophy in 14 years and numerous European adventures.

In 1977 he went on to new challenges in Minneapolis in the North American Soccer League before returning home to try his hand at management. Mike set off with a short spell at Hereford United, and in the autumn of 1979 Mike returned to The Valley. He became Charlton manager the following year and launched them to promotion from Division 3. He was then persuaded to work under Mike Bamber at Brighton and Hove Albion. Two seasons at the Goldstone Ground saw the Seagulls achieve their highest league position ever whilst Mike's team also made it to the 1983 FA Cup final. Although he later took on posts in Greece and the lower English leagues, he realised that there are more important things in life than football.

Mike now enjoys the tranquil life and the joys of his extended family in Surrey along with his wife Barbara. 'The Valley Wanderer' tells the story of a man who was fiercely competitive on the field, and still is on the golf course, but whose laid back disposition makes him hugely well-liked by former team mates and opponents alike. Mike Bailey is a reassuringly down to earth man who is admired by all who meet him, whether they are celebrities or ordinary folk. The book is the gentle tale of a Norfolk boy who lived his dreams but always remembers his roots.



The Valley Wanderer, the Mike Bailey Story, is available to buy at £14.99 and charts the player's success with his two most well-known teams, Wolves and Charlton



Wolves boss Ronnie Allen shows Bailey the way



Bailey and his wife Barbara with Clive Corbett at the book launch

# 50-year anniversary of golden great's signing

**FIFTY** years ago, Wolves acquired the services of the man who I believe to be the club's greatest captain I have seen in action.

I must admit that I am biased on two counts. Firstly, I only saw my first Wolves match in 1965; secondly I collaborated with Mike Bailey in the writing of his story, 'The Valley Wanderer'. Here is how a true Wolves great started his decade at Molineux.

Somewhat unexpectedly, in late February 1966, Charlton boss Bob Stokoe called Bailey into his office, told him of Wolves' interest and asked if he would like to go to Molineux and talk with them.

## Experience

His first experience of playing at Molineux had come the previous November when he featured in the Charlton team that drew 2-2. He already knew Ernie Hunt, who had joined Wolves a few months earlier, from sharing a room with him on England under-23 duty.

Before the match, Bailey knocked on the Molineux dressing room door to say hello to him. Hunt called him in and asked him to sit down, saying, "I like it here, you would too."

Bailey was also aware that Wolves boss Ronnie Allen, who he knew from his time at Crystal Palace, was interested in him.

Bailey himself recalled: "Ronnie Allen, who was manager at the time, chipped in by saying, 'How would you like to play with these lads?' My reply was 'great' but I thought Allen was just pulling my leg and I forgot about it."

## SPORTING MEMORIES

By Clive Corbett

*The atmosphere was friendly but electric and he knew he wanted to play in games like this every week*

Former Chronicle editor and keen Wolves fan Steve Gordos remembers that November match.

"My first proper glimpse of this all-action man was when he figured in a Charlton side playing against a newly-relegated Wolves in a Second Division clash at Molineux which ended 2-2," he said.

"Wolves led at half-time after Hughie McIlmoyle broke the deadlock, but Bailey was very much in evidence when he burst through to equalise.

"Ron Saunders – yes that Ron Saunders – missed a penalty but then put the Londoners ahead before Wolves levelled within two minutes thanks to a neat header from Ernie Hunt."

What really impressed Bailey was the Molineux crowd. He recalls how they really got behind the team. The atmosphere was friendly but electric and he knew he wanted to play in games like this every week.

It was at the end of February 1966 when Wolves and Charlton agreed terms for Bailey's transfer.

Wolves were playing Derby at the Baseball Ground and while the spoils were being shared, Bailey was helping Charlton to a 2-1 win at Leyton Orient – it proved to be his last game for the Addicks.

Two days later, Monday February 28, the England international – Bailey won two caps against the US and Wales – was at Molineux and liked what he saw, agreeing to join Wolves for a fee of £40,000. A day earlier he had celebrated his 24th birthday and would prove to be an inspirational figure at Molineux.

Having had a look around and spoken with chairman John Ireland and boss Allen, Bailey was impressed, but really wanted some time to discuss things with his wife Barbara.

"She was working in London, had never been to the Midlands and would be away from her family, so it was a big decision for her as well," Bailey recalls.

## Formalities

"The deal was completed in the shortest possible time for I left London at 12 o'clock and was back at six having spent no more than half an hour completing the formalities at Molineux.

"I was sad to leave Charlton and I am always made very welcome at The Valley."

Within a period of a little over 12 months Bailey had succeeded the great Ron Flowers as captain and led Wolves back to Division One. In May 1967 he was named Evening Mail West Midlands Footballer of the Year.

As 'The Valley Wanderer' charts, Bailey was the talismanic leader who guided Wolves to their best top flight finish to date, a first major trophy in 14 years and numerous European adventures.

For a copy of the book email Clive Corbett at gpb-books@hotmail.co.uk

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# Sport

**Celebrating 50 years since a golden great joined Wolves**

**See Page 35**



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## Sales boost just the ticket for Heathens

CRADLEY Heathens fans have broken the club record for season ticket sales in the modern era.

Heathens, who are preparing for their seventh season since the club returned to league racing, have returned to Wolvehampton's Monmore Green for home meetings. They open on Easter Monday, March 28, against Belle Vue with a revamped side.

Fans can meet returning hero Ashley Morris this Saturday when he launches the new official team clothing at the club shop in Market Square from noon-2pm.

Boss Will Pottinger said: "On behalf of the riders and myself I want to thank all the fans who have backed us in numbers before the season has even started.

"It's an amazing effort, more than 250 fans have bought season tickets and we have now gone through the club record for the modern era since we reformed in 2010.

"It also give the owners the incentive to keep going despite a lack of progress with a new stadium, for them to know the support is still there - with many more returning after not going to Perry Barr last year - is a real boost.

"There is also an amazing amount of sponsorship and advertising, that will be evident when we reveal the new race jacket at Cradley Heath Liberal Club on March 21."

Heathens have been backed by ISC Teamwear who have sponsored the team clothing and there will be stock available for fans to purchase on Saturday.

ISC have added Cradley as their first Speedway club and are partners to Rugby League giants Warrington Wolves, Leeds Rhinos and Hull FC.

Fans attending the launch on Saturday can also snap up their tickets for the season launch night on March 21 for £5 with all profits going to the riders.

## Scintillating show of attacking hockey by Old Halesonians

**Edgbaston 0 Old Hales 7**  
OLD Halesonians Men's 1st XI put in a scintillating display of attacking hockey as they blitzed Edgbaston 7-0 at the University of Birmingham to move up to fourth in the Warwick Printing Midlands One table.

With the emphasis of building on last week's 3-2 victory over Hampton, Hales knew a good start was important against a host side who had only lost twice on home soil all season.

They got just that, as Cole Hickman danced around the Edgbaston defence to set up fellow forward Graham Knight. A surging run from Adam Pritchard down the right led to Chris Whitley sliding in to tap home the second.

Edgbaston created gaps which Tom Durnford exploited to put Hales three up at half time.

Tom Bolton was unmarked to slot home from close range, Hickman powered a reverse hit to make it 5, before Ash Greaves tapped in a sixth from close range after a jinxing run by Mark Curzon from defence. The scoring was finally concluded by Hickman.

## Glassboys put Gladiators to the sword

**Stourbridge 4 Matlock Town 1**

THE Glassboys comprehensively beat Matlock Town 4-1 at Amblecote to move into the play-off positions in the Evo Stik Northern Premier.

It was a dominant performance from Gary Hackett's men, who looked the better team from the start against the Gladiators.

Chris Lait got the scoring under way on 15 minutes when he twisted and turned on the edge of the box before driving the ball home.

It was 2-0 on 24 minutes when Kristian Green bagged his second goal of the season, getting on

**Football**

the end of a low Justin Richards cross to turn it in off the post. Matt Gould in the Stourbridge goal made a good save from Liam Gaughan in the 34th minute as Matlock responded.

**Tripped**

But at the other end, Karl Hawley saw a shot tipped over and from the resulting corner, Joe Hull hit the inside of the post with a header, the

ball bouncing out. Four minutes after the break Stourbridge effectively wrapped the game up when Matt Dodd was tripped in the area and got up to score the penalty himself.

But the best goal was saved for last on 73 minutes when Richards sent the ball diagonally to Dodd on the edge of the area and his pinpoint cross was finished off by Leon Broadhurst.

The visitors scrambled a late goal through Liam Needham.

**Stourbridge:** Gould, Green (Smikle 70), Scarr, Geddes, Hull, Pierpoint, Dodd, Broadhurst, Hawley (Singh 77), Richards, Lait (Vincent 70). Subs not used: Billingham, Whittall.

# OLD HALES ARE SECONDS BEST

**THE Old Hales rugby first team match was called off at the eleventh hour last week.**

A pitch inspection by both team captains and the referee saw divided opinions on the playability.

Old Hales and the ref thought the pitch OK but the Hinkley captain was in disagreement. They will be back in action next week when the game has been rescheduled, pitch permitting.

**Camp Hill 2nds 5 Old Halesonians 2nds 28**

Old Hales home league game against Hinkley 2nds was called off on Friday due to a waterlogged pitch, so at short notice a friendly game was arranged at Camp Hill.

With the third team game called off, Old Hales 2nds took the opportunity of using 11 replacements.

Camp Hill kicked off and put pressure on the visitors, immediately turning over possession at the first ruck. Camp Hill were decisive and went on the attack down the middle. Good interplay resulted in a Camp Hill try after only two minutes.

Old Hales composed themselves and started to dominate. Several attacking moves featuring a determined Jon Harris were thwarted by the Camp Hill defence. Old Hales continued to attack and the ball was swiftly moved to the left and Tom Harris crossed the line in the corner, but his foot was adjudged to be in touch before the ball was grounded.

The Old Hales pressure finally paid off when they were awarded a penalty 20 metres out. Quick thinking scrum half Jamie Keen took a quick tap penalty and scampered towards the line to score. In-form Jake Shellis landed the conversion.

From a ruck deep in the Old Hales half, Jamie Keen took the ball, dummied and ran through the defence to score on the right. Shellis again converted to stretch the lead. From a scrum on the Camp Hill 22 line, Old Hales got clean possession and wing Jay Reid made a looping run to take a pass from fly half Tom Harris and split the defence to score close to the posts. Tom Harris added the conversion to make the score 5-21.

Old Hales were awarded a penalty and Alex Herbert kicked for touch to set up a lineout. A clean catch by Hales was followed by a drive towards the line as hooker Dave Hunt scored. Andy Tromans confidently converted the try.

## Stourbridge defence stand firm



**Centre Joe Heatley crosses the line to add to Stourbridge's score after a 50m break**

**Stourbridge 15 Sedgley Park 7**

STOUR'S handling and set-piece were considerably improved, paying dividends before the soft surface cut up.

Heatley hit an inside pass at full speed to wrongfoot Sedgley's defensive line. Clean through at halfway he left the fullback for dead and outstripped the covering wingers, scoring a spectacular solo effort.

Sedg got little change out of the Stour defence until a high tackle gave centre Matt Riley a shot a goal that he pulled wide. Stour kicked a penalty to touch from which they launched short drives that produced a try under the posts for loosehead prop Stef Thorpe. Chris Scott converted.

The first scrum of the second half produced a deliberate knock on by McShane that was penalised, giving Scott the most straightforward of kicks at goal. Stour coughed up a soft lineout turnover and Sedg replacement Harri Greville barged over, Riley converting.

Sedg continued to attack, leaving themselves vulnerable to counterattack which came when a loose ball was picked off by Billy Harding who hared upfield only to be brought down short. The move was killed by an offside intervention by Sedg no 8 Matt Lamprey, who finished his game in the sinbin. Stour kicked for the corner and wound the clock down. Sedg's final attack foundered near halfway as Stour secured the win.

## Cricket club are now sure of an Ed start

HALESOWEN Cricket Club have revealed how they have seen off interest from rival clubs to keep Ed Kilbee at Seth Somers Park.

Kilbee made a big impression last season but was unavailable for half the campaign, which was a major blow.

Now he's ready for a full season and Halesowen moved quickly to ensure he will be back with them.

Chairman Richard Evans said: "Ed was the marquee signing of the winter and we knew we had to nail him down.

"Having achieved that we now need to see if he can replicate his form of 2015 over the whole of 2016."

Meanwhile, skipper Richard Brooker says pre-season preparation is more important than ever before as they look to hit the ground running.

They face Droitwich at first-team level at home on Saturday, April 9, followed by a home clash with Himley a week later, when they will play two T20 games at 12.30 and 3pm.

Brooker said: "Traditionally the club seemed to have got off to what some have described as a slow start, which often puts early pressure on the fringe players.

"This season we have put a great deal of thought not only in to our winter programme but also to how we approach the April period.

"In the past we have spent our winter majoring on fitness work but this year we have focussed more on the ball skills of the game and relying on players to get their fitness levels right in their own time."

He added: "We will see whether the shift pays dividends in the coming days and weeks."

Halesowen are also delighted to confirm club shirt sponsors The Big Pet Store are staying on board for 2016.

## Walker races to win start as senior

HALESOWEN Road Racing team were in action at the weekend and, in his first major race of 2016, Charles Walker took the win at Milton Keynes Bowl in an hour-long category 2 criterium race. It marked the start of his inaugural year as a senior.

These races, comprising multiple laps of a closed circuit, are fast and furious and last Saturday was no exception on a twisting course with eight corners and a long uphill drag for a finish. Walker used all the experience he gained from his junior years.

Local elite rider and coach Jacob Tipper taking the Elite race.

★★★

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Halesowen

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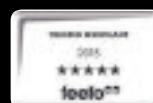
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